BRITISH COLUMBIA

BC STATS

Ministry of
Management Services

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Consumer Price Index ◆ January 2004

Highlights

- BC's CPI rose 1.5 percent from January 2003, continuing a trend of low inflation which is reflected across the country. The highest year-over-year inflation was seen in Prince Edward Island, at 1.6%, while the lowest 12-month percent change in the CPI was recorded in New Brunswick, at 0.1%. Nationally, prices rose 1.2% from January 2003.

- Of the metropolitan areas, price increases from January 2003 ranged from a high of 1.7% in Toronto to a low of 0.3% in Saint John. Vancouver posted a 1.3% increase in its CPI during the same period, while Victoria prices rose 1.6% from last January.

- Contributing to inflation in BC were higher costs for education (+21.1%), cigarettes (+13.1%), coffee & tea (+8.2%), piped gas (+6.5%) and fuel oil (+4.6%). Offsetting these increases were lower costs for children's clothing (-7.7%), footwear (-3.7%), men's clothing (-2.2%), recreation (-2.2%), liquor purchased from stores (-1.5%), and fresh vegetables (-1.4%).

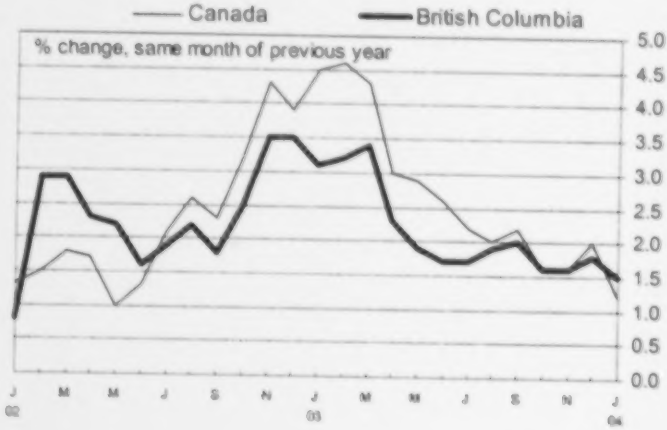
- BC's CPI, excluding food and energy, rose 1.5% from last January. The comparable figure for Canada was 1.6%.

New! See attached "Consumer Price Index - Terms and Definitions"

Note: Statistics Canada will release the February Consumer Price Index on March 18, 2004.

1992=100	Index	% Change From	
	January 2004	December 2003	January 2003
Canada	122.9	0.1	1.2
BC	120.8	-0.1	1.5
Vancouver	121.3	-0.2	1.3
Victoria	120.6	-0.1	1.6
Core Canada[1]	123.5	0.0	1.5

Year-Over-Year Inflation Low



1992=100	Latest 12-Month Average Index (ending in Jan. 2004)	Latest 12-Month Average % Change	2003 Annual Average % Change
Canada	122.4	2.5	2.8
BC	120.6	2.0	2.1
Vancouver	121.2	1.9	2.0
Victoria	120.2	2.1	2.2

[1]**The Core CPI for Canada:** Defined by the Bank of Canada as the All-items index excluding the eight most volatile components (fruit, vegetables, gasoline, fuel oil, natural gas, mortgage interest, inter-city transportation and tobacco products). Also excluded is the effect of changes in indirect taxes on the remaining components.

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Consumer Price Index – Terms and Definitions

Base Effect

The 12-month variation in the CPI is calculated by comparing the current month's index with the index for the same month of the previous year. The 12-month change is represented by the difference in the indexes of the reference months. Thus, the 12-month variation can decrease from one month to the next merely because the base serving as the point of comparison increased.

Source: Statistics Canada

Twelve-Month Percent Changes

Also referred to as "year-over-year", twelve-month percent changes compare indexes for a given month to indexes for the same month of the previous year. As they compare two points in time, they are influenced by unusual or temporary events that can affect either of the two months. Their calculation does not include any of the intervening monthly indexes.

Source: Statistics Canada

Annual Average Index

Annual average indexes are calculated by averaging index levels over the 12 months of the calendar year. These data should not be confused with the 12-month change in the CPI. By the nature of the calculation, averaging indexes over the calendar year gives a better representation of price behaviour over the whole year and is closer to the concept of an average price. The use of annual averages is considered the preferred option for indexation purposes.

Source: Statistics Canada

Latest Twelve-Month Average Index

The latest twelve-month average index (ending in the current month) is a 12-month moving average of the indexes of the most recent 12 months. It is calculated like the annual average index. Hence, in theory, the December twelve-month average index would be equal to the annual average index for the calendar year. However, in practice, when BC STATS makes these calculations from published data, the December 12-month average index may differ from Statistics Canada's published annual average index due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada and BC STATS

Changes to the Treatment of Rebates in the Consumer Price Index

Beginning with the Consumer Price Index for October 2003, Statistics Canada will change its treatment of rebate payments. The change will affect some types of rebate programs usually related to electricity or natural gas utilities.

Rebates will no longer be reflected in the CPI if they are paid on the basis of past consumption and were not known to consumers at the time of consumption.

To be reflected in the CPI, rebates or credits must relate to specific products and apply to all consumers (or a large proportion of consumers) of the product affected. CPI practice has been to reflect the impact of rebates at the time when rebates are paid. If a rebate was greater than the average monthly charge, the remainder of the rebate was reflected in following months until the rebate had been fully accounted for. Thus the CPI could reflect an average price close to zero for one month or several months in some situations. As a result, the treatment of rebates has had a significant effect on the rate of change in the CPI, making the indexes for utilities particularly volatile.

The impact of the change will be to reduce short-term fluctuations in the CPI arising from rebates on past consumption. By treating retroactive rebates as windfalls to income rather than as price changes, the level of the CPI will be higher for the months that would have been affected under the past treatment of these rebates, with a corresponding impact on annual averages.

Rebate programs known to consumers at the time of purchase will continue to be accounted for in the CPI.

Source: Statistics Canada

More information about the concepts and use of the CPI is available online in the Statistics Canada publication "Your guide to the consumer price index" (www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/62-557-XIB/free.htm).

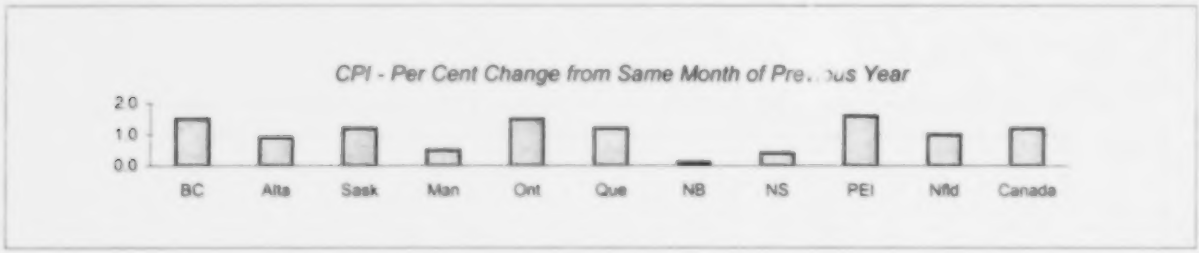
Prepared by: BC STATS, February 2004

January 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

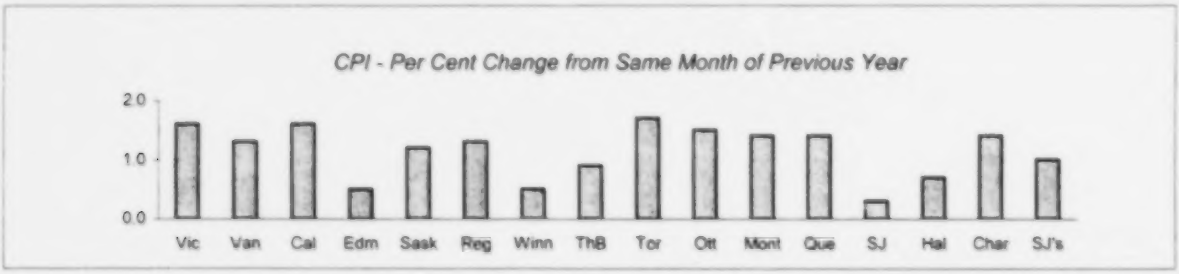
	British Columbia			Canada		
	Index	% Change		Index	% Change	
	January	December	January	January	December	January
	2004	2003	2003	2004	2003	2003
All-Items Index (1992=100)	**120.8**	**-0.1**	**1.5**	**122.9**	**0.1**	**1.2**
Food	**124.1**	**-0.2**	**1.6**	**123.7**	**0.2**	**1.1**
Food Purchased From Stores	121.9	-0.5	1.6	122.5	0.0	0.4
Meat	125.5	-1.6	1.5	129.0	-0.3	0.4
Fish & Other Seafood	130.1	0.5	-0.4	122.9	1.4	-1.0
Dairy Products & Eggs	127.6	0.5	2.8	125.0	0.3	2.9
Bakery & Other Cereal Products	122.3	-2.9	-0.1	127.0	-1.2	1.1
Fruit, Fruit Preparations & Nuts	105.4	-2.1	1.2	105.7	-1.7	-2.5
Fresh Fruit	100.2	-3.2	-0.9	105.5	-4.0	-5.0
Vegetables & Vegetable Preparations	105.6	0.3	-1.0	115.3	1.4	-5.1
Fresh Vegetables	103.1	-0.7	-1.4	118.1	1.5	-7.2
Other Food Products	129.3	1.5	3.8	122.9	1.0	2.5
Coffee & Tea	134.3	1.7	8.2	126.8	-0.5	4.9
Non-Alcoholic Beverages	85.5	15.4	1.1	103.0	5.9	-0.2
Food Purchased From Restaurants	129.1	0.5	1.7	127.1	0.5	2.7
Shelter	**104.4**	**-0.1**	**1.7**	**118.7**	**-0.1**	**2.2**
Rented Accommodation	115.3	0.1	1.0	118.0	0.1	1.2
Owned Accommodation	92.0	-0.1	1.7	112.5	0.1	2.8
Property taxes	148.0	0.0	4.4	126.6	0.0	2.8
Water, Fuel & Electricity	145.3	-0.8	2.3	143.9	-1.1	0.4
Electricity	107.0	0.0	0.2	118.5	0.0	0.1
Piped Gas	215.9	-6.3	6.5	204.7	-9.3	1.7
Fuel Oil & Other Fuel	150.0	3.2	4.6	154.3	10.0	-2.4
Household Operations & Furnishings	**122.6**	**-0.1**	**1.1**	**114.9**	**0.0**	**0.9**
Household Operations	129.8	0.0	2.4	119.9	0.2	1.4
Household Furnishings	112.5	-0.3	-1.3	107.1	-0.5	-0.3
Clothing & Footwear	**109.2**	**0.4**	**-1.0**	**102.3**	**-0.2**	**0.7**
Clothing	106.1	0.4	0.1	100.1	0.0	1.1
Women's Clothing	108.2	4.1	3.9	101.1	1.6	3.6
Men's Clothing	107.2	-3.1	-2.2	100.7	-1.8	0.0
Children's Clothing	95.1	-3.4	-7.7	94.4	-1.3	-5.3
Footwear	109.6	0.7	-3.7	101.0	-2.0	-1.7
Transportation	**138.4**	**0.2**	**0.3**	**142.2**	**1.0**	**0.2**
Private Transportation	134.7	0.5	0.3	139.9	1.3	0.2
Operation of Motor Vehicles	138.4	0.8	0.5	149.0	2.3	1.2
Gasoline	141.1	1.9	-0.4	134.6	5.7	-2.5
Public Transportation	172.4	-2.8	0.2	168.3	-1.9	1.4
Local & Commuter	145.1	0.4	2.3	146.3	1.0	4.4
Inter-City	183.4	-4.0	-0.5	185.8	-3.6	-0.4
Health & Personal Care	**122.8**	**0.2**	**0.0**	**117.7**	**0.1**	**1.4**
Health Care	127.6	-0.5	0.8	122.6	-0.2	1.3
Personal Care	117.8	0.9	-1.2	114.1	0.4	1.5
Recreation, Education & Reading	**128.7**	**-1.2**	**2.9**	**125.3**	**-0.9**	**-0.1**
Recreation	115.1	-1.8	-2.2	111.9	-1.3	-2.1
Education & Reading	180.1	0.2	18.1	175.7	0.2	6.0
Education	189.6	0.1	21.1	194.5	0.2	6.9
Reading Material & Other Printed Matter	150.0	0.4	5.0	139.6	0.6	2.6
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco Products	**140.9**	**1.7**	**6.6**	**140.8**	**0.5**	**6.7**
Alcoholic Beverages	120.0	0.1	0.8	122.9	0.3	2.1
Alcoholic Beverages Purchased from Stores	116.6	0.1	0.3	122.5	0.5	1.6
Beer Purchased from Stores	136.0	0.0	3.3	132.4	0.5	2.7
Liquor Purchased from Stores	101.0	0.2	-1.5	109.0	0.4	1.1
Tobacco Products & Smokers' Supplies	160.6	3.4	13.2	140.1	0.6	10.3
Cigarettes	160.4	3.4	13.1	138.9	0.6	10.3
All-Items Excluding Food	120.1	-0.1	1.4	122.8	0.1	1.2
All-Items Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	118.0	-0.2	1.3	123.0	0.1	1.1
All-Items Excluding Food & Energy	118.2	-0.2	1.5	121.1	-0.1	1.6

January 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

Provinces	Monthly Index		% Change	Annual Index		% Change
	January 2004	December 2003	January 2003	2003	2002	2002/03
Canada	122.9	0.1	1.2	122.3	119.0	2.8
Newfoundland & Labrador	120.9	0.5	1.0	120.7	117.3	2.9
Prince Edward Island	121.8	-0.2	1.6	121.9	117.7	3.6
Nova Scotia	123.6	0.1	0.4	123.9	119.8	3.4
New Brunswick	122.5	0.4	0.1	122.6	118.6	3.4
Quebec	119.2	0.5	1.2	118.4	115.5	2.5
Ontario	124.2	0.0	1.5	123.3	120.1	2.7
Manitoba	125.6	0.0	0.5	125.3	123.1	1.8
Saskatchewan	127.1	0.1	1.2	126.5	123.7	2.3
Alberta	129.8	-0.1	0.9	129.7	124.2	4.4
British Columbia	**120.8**	**-0.1**	**1.5**	**120.4**	**117.9**	**2.1**
Whitehorse	118.9	0.0	-0.7	119.9	117.7	1.9
Yellowknife	118.1	-0.1	-0.2	118.4	116.3	1.8
Iqaluit (Dec. 2002=100)	100.0	-0.5	0.1	100.2	n/a	n/a



Metropolitan Areas	Monthly Index		% Change	Annual Index		% Change
	January 2004	December 2003	January 2003	2003	2002	2002/03
St. John's	120.9	0.5	1.0	120.6	117.3	2.8
Charlottetown	120.9	-0.2	1.4	120.9	117.1	3.2
Halifax	122.8	0.1	0.7	122.9	119.1	3.2
Saint John	122.2	0.3	0.3	122.2	118.2	3.4
Quebec City	120.0	0.5	1.4	119.1	116.2	2.5
Montreal	119.3	0.5	1.4	118.4	115.7	2.3
Ottawa	125.8	0.0	1.5	124.9	121.9	2.5
Toronto	125.3	-0.1	1.7	124.2	120.6	3.0
Thunder Bay	122.3	-0.2	0.9	122.1	119.3	2.3
Winnipeg	125.7	0.0	0.5	125.5	123.3	1.8
Regina	128.1	0.2	1.3	127.5	124.6	2.3
Saskatoon	126.3	0.2	1.2	125.8	123.1	2.2
Edmonton	128.0	-0.3	0.5	128.4	121.9	5.3
Calgary	130.9	0.2	1.6	130.2	125.8	3.5
Vancouver	**121.3**	**-0.2**	**1.3**	**121.0**	**118.6**	**2.0**
Victoria	**120.6**	**-0.1**	**1.6**	**120.0**	**117.4**	**2.2**



January 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

British Columbia

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average		Food	Shelter	Household Operation	Clothing Footwear	Trans-portation	Health & Personal	Recreation Education	Alcohol Tobacco
2000	113.3	1.9		113.0	99.6	116.9	112.1	130.0	116.7	121.2	109.7
2001	115.2	1.7		117.4	101.2	118.0	112.6	130.5	119.7	122.6	112.3
2002	117.9	2.3		120.6	101.9	121.0	112.6	135.0	121.9	124.7	126.7
2003	120.4	2.1		122.8	103.7	122.3	111.4	139.3	122.8	129.0	136.0
2003		Month	Year								
Jan	119.0	0.2	3.1	122.1	102.7	121.3	110.3	138.0	122.8	125.1	132.2
Feb	119.6	0.5	3.2	121.1	102.9	122.3	112.0	140.3	122.7	126.0	134.0
Mar	120.6	0.8	3.4	122.3	103.2	122.1	113.8	143.2	121.8	126.9	135.2
Apr	120.4	-0.2	2.3	122.7	103.6	121.7	113.5	140.7	122.6	126.9	135.3
May	120.4	0.0	1.9	123.3	103.8	121.9	112.1	138.7	121.9	128.7	136.3
Jun	120.2	-0.2	1.7	123.3	103.8	122.0	110.4	138.2	121.7	128.4	136.4
Jul	120.5	0.2	1.7	123.3	103.8	122.3	111.4	138.6	122.2	129.5	136.4
Aug	120.9	0.3	1.9	123.3	103.9	122.4	109.4	141.0	123.5	129.6	136.8
Sep	121.2	0.2	2.0	122.4	103.7	123.1	113.0	139.9	123.9	133.6	137.0
Oct	120.6	-0.5	1.6	122.3	104.3	122.5	112.5	136.3	124.2	132.3	136.9
Nov	120.8	0.2	1.6	123.5	104.2	122.7	110.1	138.2	123.3	130.9	137.0
Dec	120.9	0.1	1.8	124.4	104.5	122.7	108.8	138.1	122.6	130.3	138.5
2004											
Jan	120.8	-0.1	1.5	124.1	104.4	122.6	109.2	138.4	122.8	128.7	140.9

Canada

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average		Food	Shelter	Household Operation	Clothing Footwear	Trans-portation	Health & Personal	Recreation Education	Alcohol Tobacco
2000	113.5	2.7		112.2	108.8	110.0	105.5	130.7	112.0	122.5	97.6
2001	116.4	2.6		117.2	112.8	112.2	106.0	130.8	114.2	124.3	105.1
2002	119.0	2.2		120.3	113.8	113.8	105.2	134.4	115.5	126.3	123.6
2003	122.3	2.8		122.4	117.5	114.6	103.3	141.4	117.0	127.3	136.0
2003		Month	Year								
Jan	121.4	0.8	4.5	122.3	116.2	113.9	101.6	141.9	116.1	125.4	132.0
Feb	122.3	0.7	4.6	122.1	116.7	114.5	103.8	144.1	116.4	127.1	133.5
Mar	122.8	0.4	4.3	122.4	117.4	114.5	105.5	144.6	116.1	126.7	133.8
Apr	121.9	-0.7	3.0	122.4	116.5	114.5	103.8	141.8	116.8	126.3	134.5
May	122.0	0.1	2.9	122.8	117.1	114.5	103.4	139.8	117.1	127.2	136.2
Jun	122.1	0.1	2.6	123.2	117.7	114.5	101.0	139.5	116.8	127.6	136.4
Jul	122.2	0.1	2.2	123.2	117.6	114.6	101.6	139.9	116.9	127.9	136.6
Aug	122.5	0.2	2.0	122.1	117.7	114.7	101.8	142.4	117.4	128.0	137.1
Sep	122.7	0.2	2.2	121.3	117.9	115.1	105.0	141.9	117.6	128.9	137.1
Oct	122.4	-0.2	1.6	121.1	118.2	115.1	105.0	139.7	117.7	128.3	137.0
Nov	122.7	0.2	1.6	122.3	118.3	114.9	104.2	140.9	118.0	127.5	137.6
Dec	122.8	0.1	2.0	123.4	118.8	114.9	102.5	140.8	117.6	126.5	140.1
2004											
Jan	122.9	0.1	1.2	123.7	118.7	114.9	102.3	142.2	117.7	125.3	140.8

January 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100), Selected Items

BRITISH COLUMBIA		Rented Accom-modation	Owned Accom-modation	Energy for Dwellings			Motor Gasoline	Energy*	Excluding Excluding Food	Excluding Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	Excluding Excluding Food & Energy
				Piped Gas	Fuel Oil/ Other Fuel	Electricity[1]					
	2000	110.7	89.0	167.4	137.6	105.7	134.3	130.8	113.4	111.5	111.9
	2001	111.9	89.7	222.9	141.0	91.9	134.3	134.3	114.7	113.3	113.0
	2002	113.5	89.7	198.6	131.6	106.3	135.7	135.9	117.3	115.5	115.7
	2003	114.7	91.3	223.7	151.0	106.9	148.4	144.9	119.9	117.8	117.8
2003	Jan	114.2	90.5	202.7	143.4	106.8	141.6	139.8	118.4	116.5	116.5
	Feb	114.3	90.6	202.7	150.5	106.8	154.0	146.1	119.3	117.0	117.0
	Mar	114.4	90.8	205.7	178.6	106.8	167.4	153.5	120.2	118.0	117.4
	Apr	114.5	91.0	230.3	165.0	106.8	153.1	147.9	119.9	117.8	117.5
	May	114.5	91.3	230.3	149.8	106.8	142.0	142.1	119.8	117.7	117.8
	Jun	114.6	91.3	230.3	149.8	106.8	142.2	142.2	119.6	117.6	117.6
	Jul	114.7	91.3	230.3	149.8	107.0	144.0	143.2	119.9	117.8	117.9
	Aug	114.7	91.3	230.3	149.8	107.0	160.0	151.0	120.4	118.2	117.8
	Sep	114.8	91.1	230.3	151.1	107.0	157.3	149.8	121.0	118.6	118.5
	Oct	114.9	91.9	230.3	140.2	107.0	140.0	141.0	120.3	118.0	118.5
	Nov	115.0	91.8	230.3	138.6	107.0	141.1	141.6	120.3	118.1	118.4
	Dec	115.2	92.1	230.3	145.4	107.0	138.5	140.4	120.2	118.2	118.4
2004	Jan	115.3	92.0	215.9	150.0	107.0	141.1	140.8	120.1	118.0	118.2

[1] *electricity figure for 2001 reflects BC Hydro rebates in February and March*

CANADA		Rented Accom-modation	Owned Accom-modation	Energy for Dwellings			Motor Gasoline	Energy*	Excluding Excluding Food	All Items Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	All Items Excluding Food & Energy
				Piped Gas	Fuel Oil/ Other Fuel	Electricity					
	2000	111.5	102.9	158.9	143.2	109.2	131.7	128.1	113.9	115.0	112.2
	2001	113.3	105.9	206.0	143.5	111.1	128.3	132.3	116.3	117.7	114.4
	2002	115.5	107.6	168.7	131.8	119.6	127.2	129.6	118.8	119.6	117.5
	2003	117.2	110.9	219.5	151.5	117.2	135.4	139.9	122.4	122.5	120.5
2003	Jan	116.6	109.4	201.3	158.1	118.4	138.0	140.4	121.3	121.7	119.2
	Feb	116.7	109.7	203.5	176.9	118.4	147.7	146.5	122.4	122.6	119.9
	Mar	116.8	110.0	218.1	198.9	118.3	149.1	149.5	122.9	123.1	120.2
	Apr	116.9	110.3	230.3	163.0	106.3	135.7	137.4	121.9	122.2	120.2
	May	117.0	110.6	210.2	143.7	117.9	126.4	134.4	121.9	122.2	120.4
	Jun	117.1	110.9	228.3	143.7	119.0	127.9	137.0	121.9	122.3	120.2
	Jul	117.2	110.9	226.2	143.7	117.9	130.3	137.6	122.0	122.4	120.3
	Aug	117.4	110.9	223.6	143.7	118.3	142.0	143.5	122.7	122.7	120.5
	Sep	117.5	111.1	232.2	138.0	118.2	141.0	143.4	123.1	122.9	120.9
	Oct	117.7	112.0	213.0	132.7	118.5	131.7	137.0	122.7	122.6	121.1
	Nov	117.8	112.1	221.7	135.8	117.1	127.9	135.4	122.8	122.9	121.4
	Dec	117.9	112.4	225.6	140.3	118.5	127.3	136.2	122.7	122.9	121.2
2004	Jan	118.0	112.5	204.7	154.3	118.5	134.6	138.9	122.8	123.0	121.1

* *Energy includes Piped Gas, Fuel Oil/Other Fuel, Electricity, and Motor Gasoline*

Source: Statistics Canada

Produced by: BC Stats

January 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

Vancouver

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average	Shelter	Accommodation Rented	Accommodation Owned	Water, Fuel Electricity
2000	113.9	2.2	100.8	110.2	90.6	135.7
2001	116.0	1.8	103.3	111.5	91.4	153.0
2002	118.6	2.2	103.4	113.1	91.3	150.0
2003	121.0	2.0	105.0	114.4	92.6	154.6
2003		Month / Year				
Jan	119.7	0.2 / 2.9	104.1	113.9	91.8	150.7
Feb	120.3	0.5 / 3.2	104.2	114.0	92.0	150.8
Mar	121.2	0.7 / 3.2	104.6	114.1	92.4	151.5
Apr	121.0	-0.2 / 2.2	105.1	114.3	92.5	155.9
May	120.9	-0.1 / 1.6	105.2	114.3	92.7	155.7
Jun	120.8	-0.1 / 1.5	105.2	114.4	92.8	155.7
Jul	120.9	0.1 / 1.4	105.2	114.4	92.7	155.7
Aug	121.5	0.5 / 1.8	105.1	114.5	92.6	155.7
Sep	121.8	0.2 / 1.8	105.0	114.7	92.3	155.8
Oct	121.3	-0.4 / 1.4	105.5	114.8	93.0	155.7
Nov	121.4	0.1 / 1.4	105.5	114.8	92.9	155.7
Dec	121.6	0.2 / 1.8	105.7	115.0	93.2	155.8
2004						
Jan	121.3	-0.2 / 1.3	105.5	115.2	93.0	154.0

Victoria

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average	Shelter	Accommodation Rented	Accommodation Owned	Water, Fuel Electricity
2000	113.0	1.7	99.2	110.5	89.1	118.8
2001	114.3	1.2	98.9	111.4	89.8	110.3
2002	117.4	2.7	100.8	113.2	90.2	120.5
2003	120.0	2.2	102.9	114.3	92.3	124.6
2003		Month / Year				
Jan	118.7	0.3 / 3.3	101.9	114.0	91.2	123.2
Feb	119.2	0.4 / 3.3	102.1	114.0	91.3	123.8
Mar	120.1	0.8 / 3.4	102.5	114.1	91.4	128.4
Apr	119.9	-0.2 / 2.4	102.6	114.2	91.7	127.1
May	119.9	0.0 / 2.0	102.8	114.1	92.2	124.6
Jun	119.7	-0.2 / 1.6	102.8	114.1	92.1	124.6
Jul	120.1	0.3 / 1.7	103.0	114.2	92.4	124.9
Aug	120.5	0.3 / 1.9	103.2	114.3	92.6	124.9
Sep	120.8	0.2 / 2.0	102.8	114.4	92.1	124.6
Oct	120.4	-0.3 / 1.8	103.7	114.6	93.4	122.9
Nov	120.5	0.1 / 1.6	103.5	114.7	93.2	122.9
Dec	120.7	0.2 / 1.9	103.9	114.9	93.6	123.7
2004						
Jan	120.6	-0.1 / 1.6	104.0	114.9	93.5	125.5

BRITISH COLUMBIA

BC STATS

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Management Services

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Consumer Price Index ◆ February 2004

Highlights

- BC's CPI rose 1.4 percent from February 2003, showing the highest inflation in the country. The next highest year-over-year inflation was seen in Prince Edward Island, at 0.9%, while the lowest 12-month percent change in the CPI was recorded in Whitehorse with a decrease of 1.1%. Nationally prices rose 0.7%, the smallest 12-month increase since December 2001.

- Of the metropolitan areas, Victoria posted the highest increase from February 2003 at 1.5%, with Calgary next at 1.3%. Vancouver was 1.2% and Winnipeg, with the lowest, had a decrease of 0.1%.

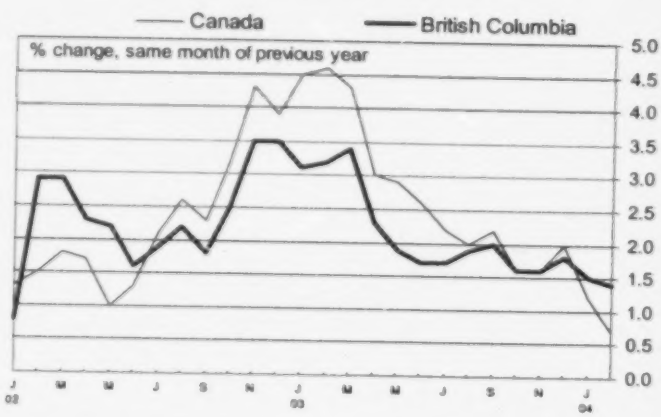
- Education in BC remained the highest cost increase at 21.1%. Others were beer (9.1%), tobacco products (8.5%), coffee and tea (+8.2%) and piped gas (+6.5%). Offsetting these increases were lower costs for non-alcoholic beverages (-2.8%), household furnishings (-2.7%) and motor gasoline (-2.5%).

- BC's CPI, excluding food and energy, remained at 1.5% higher than the same month last year. The comparable figure for Canada was 1.1%.

New! See attached "Consumer Price Index - Terms and Definitions"

1992=100	Index	% Change From	
	February 2004	January 2004	February 2003
Canada	123.2	0.2	0.7
BC	121.3	0.4	1.4
Vancouver	121.8	0.4	1.2
Victoria	121.0	0.3	1.5
Core Canada[1]	123.3	0.2	1.1

Year-Over-Year Inflation Remains Low



1992=100	Latest 12-Month Average Index (ending in Jan. 2004)	Latest 12-Month Average % Change	2003 Annual Average % Change
Canada	122.5	2.2	2.8
BC	120.7	1.9	2.1
Vancouver	121.9	1.7	2.0
Victoria	120.4	1.9	2.2

Note: Statistics Canada will release the March Consumer Price Index on April 20, 2004.

[1]**The Core CPI for Canada:** Defined by the Bank of Canada as the All-items index excluding the eight most volatile components (fruit, vegetables, gasoline, fuel oil, natural gas, mortgage interest, intercity transportation and tobacco products). Also excluded is the effect of changes in indirect taxes on the remaining components.

Consumer Price Index – Terms and Definitions

Base Effect

The 12-month variation in the CPI is calculated by comparing the current month's index with the index for the same month of the previous year. The 12-month change is represented by the difference in the indexes of the reference months. Thus, the 12-month variation can decrease from one month to the next merely because the base serving as the point of comparison increased.

Source: Statistics Canada

Twelve-Month Percent Changes

Also referred to as "year-over-year", twelve-month percent changes compare indexes for a given month to indexes for the same month of the previous year. As they compare two points in time, they are influenced by unusual or temporary events that can affect either of the two months. Their calculation does not include any of the intervening monthly indexes.

Source: Statistics Canada

Annual Average Index

Annual average indexes are calculated by averaging index levels over the 12 months of the calendar year. These data should not be confused with the 12-month change in the CPI. By the nature of the calculation, averaging indexes over the calendar year gives a better representation of price behaviour over the whole year and is closer to the concept of an average price. The use of annual averages is considered the preferred option for indexation purposes.

Source: Statistics Canada

Latest Twelve-Month Average Index

The latest twelve-month average index (ending in the current month) is a 12-month moving average of the indexes of the most recent 12 months. It is calculated like the annual average index. Hence, in theory, the December twelve-month average index would be equal to the annual average index for the calendar year. However, in practice, when BC STATS makes these calculations from published data, the December 12-month average index may differ from Statistics Canada's published annual average index due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada and BC STATS

Changes to the Treatment of Rebates in the Consumer Price Index

Beginning with the Consumer Price Index for October 2003, Statistics Canada will change its treatment of rebate payments. The change will affect some types of rebate programs usually related to electricity or natural gas utilities.

Rebates will no longer be reflected in the CPI if they are paid on the basis of past consumption and were not known to consumers at the time of consumption.

To be reflected in the CPI, rebates or credits must relate to specific products and apply to all consumers (or a large proportion of consumers) of the product affected. CPI practice has been to reflect the impact of rebates at the time when rebates are paid. If a rebate was greater than the average monthly charge, the remainder of the rebate was reflected in following months until the rebate had been fully accounted for. Thus the CPI could reflect an average price close to zero for one month or several months in some situations. As a result, the treatment of rebates has had a significant effect on the rate of change in the CPI, making the indexes for utilities particularly volatile.

The impact of the change will be to reduce short-term fluctuations in the CPI arising from rebates on past consumption. By treating retroactive rebates as windfalls to income rather than as price changes, the level of the CPI will be higher for the months that would have been affected under the past treatment of these rebates, with a corresponding impact on annual averages.

Rebate programs known to consumers at the time of purchase will continue to be accounted for in the CPI.

Source: Statistics Canada

More information about the concepts and use of the CPI is available online in the Statistics Canada publication "Your guide to the consumer price index" (www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/62-557-XIB/free.htm).

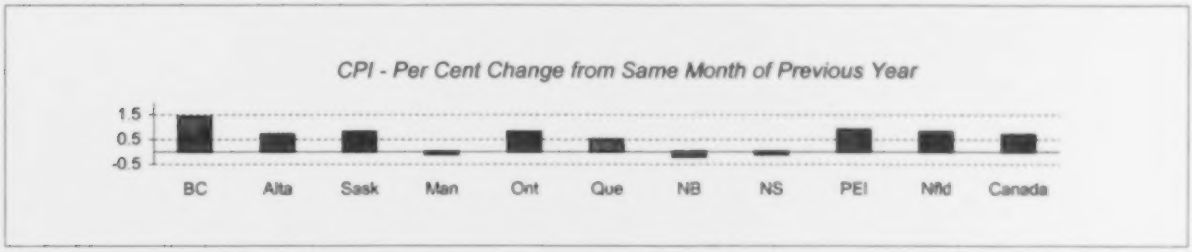
Prepared by: BC STATS, February 2004

February 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

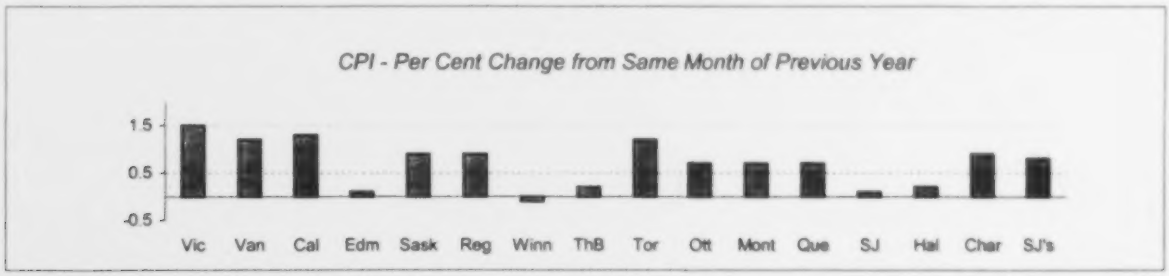
	British Columbia			Canada		
	Index February 2004	% Change January 2004	% Change February 2003	Index February 2004	% Change January 2004	% Change February 2003
All-Items Index (1992=100)	**121.3**	**0.4**	**1.4**	**123.2**	**0.2**	**0.7**
Food	**123.2**	**-0.7**	**1.7**	**123.4**	**-0.2**	**1.1**
Food Purchased From Stores	120.5	-1.1	1.8	122.1	-0.3	0.4
Meat	129.5	3.2	2.8	130.2	0.9	-0.1
Fish & Other Seafood	128.8	-1.0	0.3	122.3	-0.5	-1.1
Dairy Products & Eggs	127.8	0.2	3.4	125.6	0.5	2.1
Bakery & Other Cereal Products	122.8	0.4	1.8	127.9	0.7	1.4
Fruit, Fruit Preparations & Nuts	100.4	-4.7	-0.6	103.4	-2.2	-2.2
Fresh Fruit	94.1	-6.1	-1.3	102.4	-2.9	-3.8
Vegetables & Vegetable Preparations	100.2	-5.1	-0.9	111.4	-3.4	-3.9
Fresh Vegetables	97.2	-5.7	-1.0	113.1	-4.2	-5.6
Other Food Products	126.2	-2.4	2.4	122.3	-0.5	2.2
Coffee & Tea	133.4	-0.7	8.2	126.5	-0.2	2.3
Non-Alcoholic Beverages	80.4	-6.0	-2.8	102.8	-0.2	-0.2
Food Purchased From Restaurants	129.2	0.1	1.7	127.3	0.2	2.7
Shelter	**104.7**	**0.3**	**1.7**	**119.0**	**0.3**	**2.0**
Rented Accommodation	115.4	0.1	1.0	118.0	0.0	1.1
Owned Accommodation	92.3	0.3	1.9	112.7	0.2	2.7
Property taxes	148.0	0.0	4.4	126.6	0.0	2.8
Water, Fuel & Electricity	145.4	0.1	2.0	145.2	0.9	-0.1
Electricity	107.0	0.0	0.2	118.6	0.1	0.2
Piped Gas	215.9	0.0	6.5	208.6	1.9	2.5
Fuel Oil & Other Fuel	153.1	2.1	1.7	160.3	3.9	-9.4
Household Operations & Furnishings	**123.3**	**0.6**	**0.8**	**115.2**	**0.3**	**0.6**
Household Operations	130.3	0.4	2.7	120.3	0.3	1.5
Household Furnishings	113.5	0.9	-2.7	107.3	0.2	-0.9
Clothing & Footwear	**112.3**	**2.8**	**0.3**	**104.0**	**1.7**	**0.2**
Clothing	109.5	3.2	0.7	102.1	2.0	-0.2
Women's Clothing	111.7	3.2	1.1	102.7	1.6	-0.6
Men's Clothing	109.7	2.3	0.5	102.7	2.0	0.3
Children's Clothing	101.1	6.3	-0.6	98.1	3.9	-0.9
Footwear	111.1	1.4	-1.9	102.3	1.3	0.1
Transportation	**138.9**	**0.4**	**-1.0**	**141.9**	**-0.2**	**-1.5**
Private Transportation	135.4	0.5	-1.0	139.5	-0.3	-1.8
Operation of Motor Vehicles	141.7	2.4	-0.4	151.2	1.5	-0.5
Gasoline	150.2	6.4	-2.5	139.2	3.4	-5.8
Public Transportation	171.1	-0.8	-1.1	167.2	-0.7	0.4
Local & Commuter	145.1	0.0	1.6	146.3	0.0	4.2
Inter-City	181.4	-1.1	-2.2	183.9	-1.0	-1.9
Health & Personal Care	**123.4**	**0.5**	**0.6**	**117.7**	**0.0**	**1.1**
Health Care	128.1	0.4	1.1	122.7	0.1	1.4
Personal Care	118.6	0.7	-0.2	114.1	0.0	1.0
Recreation, Education & Reading	**130.0**	**1.0**	**3.2**	**126.6**	**1.0**	**-0.4**
Recreation	116.7	1.4	-1.9	113.4	1.3	-2.5
Education & Reading	180.2	0.1	18.2	175.9	0.1	6.1
Education	189.6	0.0	21.1	194.5	0.0	6.9
Reading Material & Other Printed Matter	150.6	0.4	5.4	140.5	0.6	3.3
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco Products	**142.9**	**1.4**	**6.6**	**141.1**	**0.2**	**5.7**
Alcoholic Beverages	123.3	2.8	5.0	123.8	0.7	2.7
Alcoholic Beverages Purchased from Stores	121.1	3.9	6.7	123.8	1.1	2.8
Beer Purchased from Stores	143.7	5.7	9.1	134.8	1.8	4.4
Liquor Purchased from Stores	103.1	2.1	1.5	109.2	0.2	1.1
Tobacco Products & Smokers' Supplies	160.8	0.1	8.5	140.0	-0.1	8.0
Cigarettes	160.7	0.2	8.5	138.8	-0.1	8.0
All-Items Excluding Food	120.9	0.7	1.3	123.2	0.3	0.7
All-Items Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	118.4	0.3	1.2	123.3	0.2	0.6
All-Items Excluding Food & Energy	118.8	0.5	1.5	121.2	0.1	1.1

February 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

Provinces	Monthly Index	% Change		Annual Index		% Change
	February 2004	January 2004	February 2003	2003	2002	2002/03
Canada	123.2	0.2	0.7	122.3	119.0	2.8
Newfoundland & Labrador	120.8	-0.1	0.8	120.7	117.3	2.9
Prince Edward Island	122.4	0.5	0.9	121.9	117.7	3.6
Nova Scotia	124.2	0.5	-0.1	123.9	119.8	3.4
New Brunswick	123.1	0.5	-0.2	122.6	118.6	3.4
Quebec	119.7	0.4	0.5	118.4	115.5	2.5
Ontario	124.4	0.2	0.8	123.3	120.1	2.7
Manitoba	125.4	-0.2	-0.1	125.3	123.1	1.8
Saskatchewan	127.2	0.1	0.8	126.5	123.7	2.3
Alberta	129.9	0.1	0.7	129.7	124.2	4.4
British Columbia	**121.3**	**0.4**	**1.4**	**120.4**	**117.9**	**2.1**
Whitehorse	119.3	0.3	-1.1	119.9	117.7	1.9
Yellowknife	117.7	-0.3	-0.8	118.4	116.3	1.8
Iqaluit (Dec. 2002=100)	99.9	-0.1	0.1	100.2	n/a	n/a



Metropolitan Areas	Monthly Index	% Change		Annual Index		% Change
	February 2004	January 2004	February 2003	2003	2002	2002/03
St. John's	120.8	-0.1	0.8	120.6	117.3	2.8
Charlottetown	121.6	0.6	0.9	120.9	117.1	3.2
Halifax	123.2	0.3	0.2	122.9	119.1	3.2
Saint John	122.8	0.5	0.1	122.2	118.2	3.4
Quebec City	120.4	0.3	0.7	119.1	116.2	2.5
Montreal	119.8	0.4	0.7	118.4	115.7	2.3
Ottawa	126.0	0.2	0.7	124.9	121.9	2.5
Toronto	125.6	0.2	1.2	124.2	120.6	3.0
Thunder Bay	122.5	0.2	0.2	122.1	119.3	2.3
Winnipeg	125.6	-0.1	-0.1	125.5	123.3	1.8
Regina	128.2	0.1	0.9	127.5	124.6	2.3
Saskatoon	126.5	0.2	0.9	125.8	123.1	2.2
Edmonton	127.9	-0.1	0.1	128.4	121.9	5.3
Calgary	131.0	0.1	1.3	130.2	125.8	3.5
Vancouver	**121.8**	**0.4**	**1.2**	**121.0**	**118.6**	**2.0**
Victoria	**121.0**	**0.3**	**1.5**	**120.0**	**117.4**	**2.2**



February 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

British Columbia

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average		Food	Shelter	Household Operation	Clothing Footwear	Trans-portation	Health & Personal	Recreation Education	Alcohol Tobacco
2000	113.3	1.9		113.0	99.6	116.9	112.1	130.0	116.7	121.2	109.7
2001	115.2	1.7		117.4	101.2	118.0	112.6	130.5	119.7	122.6	112.3
2002	117.9	2.3		120.6	101.9	121.0	112.6	135.0	121.9	124.7	126.7
2003	120.4	2.1		122.8	103.7	122.3	111.4	139.3	122.8	129.0	136.0
2003		Month	Year								
Jan	119.0	0.2	3.1	122.1	102.7	121.3	110.3	138.0	122.8	125.1	132.2
Feb	119.6	0.5	3.2	121.1	102.9	122.3	112.0	140.3	122.7	126.0	134.0
Mar	120.6	0.8	3.4	122.3	103.2	122.1	113.8	143.2	121.8	126.9	135.2
Apr	120.4	-0.2	2.3	122.7	103.6	121.7	113.5	140.7	122.6	126.9	135.3
May	120.4	0.0	1.9	123.3	103.8	121.9	112.1	138.7	121.9	128.7	136.3
Jun	120.2	-0.2	1.7	123.3	103.8	122.0	110.4	138.2	121.7	128.4	136.4
Jul	120.5	0.2	1.7	123.3	103.8	122.3	111.4	138.6	122.2	129.5	136.4
Aug	120.9	0.3	1.9	123.3	103.9	122.4	109.4	141.0	123.5	129.6	136.8
Sep	121.2	0.2	2.0	122.4	103.7	123.1	113.0	139.9	123.9	133.6	137.0
Oct	120.6	-0.5	1.6	122.3	104.3	122.5	112.5	136.3	124.2	132.3	136.9
Nov	120.8	0.2	1.6	123.5	104.2	122.7	110.1	138.2	123.3	130.9	137.0
Dec	120.9	0.1	1.8	124.4	104.5	122.7	108.8	138.1	122.6	130.3	138.5
2004											
Jan	120.8	-0.1	1.5	124.1	104.4	122.6	109.2	138.4	122.8	128.7	140.9
Feb	121.3	0.4	1.4	123.2	104.7	123.3	112.3	138.9	123.4	130.0	142.9

Canada

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average		Food	Shelter	Household Operation	Clothing Footwear	Trans-portation	Health & Personal	Recreation Education	Alcohol Tobacco
2000	113.5	2.7		112.2	108.8	110.0	105.5	130.7	112.0	122.5	97.6
2001	116.4	2.6		117.2	112.8	112.2	106.0	130.8	114.2	124.3	105.1
2002	119.0	2.2		120.3	113.8	113.8	105.2	134.4	115.5	126.3	123.6
2003	122.3	2.8		122.4	117.5	114.6	103.3	141.4	117.0	127.3	136.0
2003		Month	Year								
Jan	121.4	0.8	4.5	122.3	116.2	113.9	101.6	141.9	116.1	125.4	132.0
Feb	122.3	0.7	4.6	122.1	116.7	114.5	103.8	144.1	116.4	127.1	133.5
Mar	122.8	0.4	4.3	122.4	117.4	114.5	105.5	144.6	116.1	126.7	133.8
Apr	121.9	-0.7	3.0	122.4	116.5	114.5	103.8	141.8	116.8	126.3	134.5
May	122.0	0.1	2.9	122.8	117.1	114.5	103.4	139.8	117.1	127.2	136.2
Jun	122.1	0.1	2.6	123.2	117.7	114.5	101.0	139.5	116.8	127.6	136.4
Jul	122.2	0.1	2.2	123.2	117.6	114.6	101.6	139.9	116.9	127.9	136.6
Aug	122.5	0.2	2.0	122.1	117.7	114.7	101.8	142.4	117.4	128.0	137.1
Sep	122.7	0.2	2.2	121.3	117.9	115.1	105.0	141.9	117.6	128.9	137.1
Oct	122.4	-0.2	1.6	121.1	118.2	115.1	105.0	139.7	117.7	128.3	137.0
Nov	122.7	0.2	1.6	122.3	118.3	114.9	104.2	140.9	118.0	127.5	137.6
Dec	122.8	0.1	2.0	123.4	118.8	114.9	102.5	140.8	117.6	126.5	140.1
2004											
Jan	122.9	0.1	1.2	123.7	118.7	114.9	102.3	142.2	117.7	125.3	140.8
Feb	123.2	0.2	0.7	123.4	119.0	115.2	104.0	141.9	117.7	126.6	141.1

February 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100), Selected Items

BRITISH COLUMBIA		Rented Accom-modation	Owned Accom-modation	Energy for Dwellings			Motor Gasoline	Energy*	Excluding Excluding Food	Excluding Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	Excluding Excluding Food & Energy
				Piped Gas	Fuel Oil/ Other Fuel	Electricity[1]					
	2000	110.7	89.0	167.4	137.6	105.7	134.3	130.8	113.4	111.5	111.9
	2001	111.9	89.7	222.9	141.0	91.9	134.3	134.3	114.7	113.3	113.0
	2002	113.5	89.7	198.6	131.6	106.3	135.7	135.9	117.3	115.5	115.7
	2003	114.7	91.3	223.7	151.0	106.9	148.4	144.9	119.9	117.8	117.8
2003	Jan	114.2	90.5	202.7	143.4	106.8	141.6	139.8	118.4	116.5	116.5
	Feb	114.3	90.6	202.7	150.5	106.8	154.0	146.1	119.3	117.0	117.0
	Mar	114.4	90.8	205.7	178.6	106.8	167.4	153.5	120.2	118.0	117.4
	Apr	114.5	91.0	230.3	165.0	106.8	153.1	147.9	119.9	117.8	117.5
	May	114.5	91.3	230.3	149.8	106.8	142.0	142.1	119.8	117.7	117.8
	Jun	114.6	91.3	230.3	149.8	106.8	142.2	142.2	119.6	117.6	117.6
	Jul	114.7	91.3	230.3	149.8	107.0	144.0	143.2	119.9	117.8	117.9
	Aug	114.7	91.3	230.3	149.8	107.0	160.0	151.0	120.4	118.2	117.8
	Sep	114.8	91.1	230.3	151.1	107.0	157.3	149.8	121.0	118.6	118.5
	Oct	114.9	91.9	230.3	140.2	107.0	140.0	141.0	120.3	118.0	118.5
	Nov	115.0	91.8	230.3	138.6	107.0	141.1	141.6	120.3	118.1	118.4
	Dec	115.2	92.1	230.3	145.4	107.0	138.5	140.4	120.2	118.2	118.4
2004	Jan	115.3	92.0	215.9	150.0	107.0	141.1	140.8	120.1	118.0	118.2
	Feb	115.4	92.3	215.9	153.1	107.0	150.2	145.3	120.9	118.4	118.8

[1] electricity figure for 2001 reflects BC Hydro rebates in February and March

CANADA		Rented Accom-modation	Owned Accom-modation	Energy for Dwellings			Motor Gasoline	Energy*	Excluding Excluding Food	All Items Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	All Items Excluding Food & Energy
				Piped Gas	Fuel Oil/ Other Fuel	Electricity					
	2000	111.5	102.9	158.9	143.2	109.2	131.7	128.1	113.9	115.0	112.2
	2001	113.3	105.9	206.0	143.5	111.1	128.3	132.3	116.3	117.7	114.4
	2002	115.5	107.6	168.7	131.8	119.6	127.2	129.6	118.8	119.6	117.5
	2003	117.2	110.9	219.5	151.5	117.2	135.4	139.9	122.4	122.5	120.5
2003	Jan	116.6	109.4	201.3	158.1	118.4	138.0	140.4	121.3	121.7	119.2
	Feb	116.7	109.7	203.5	176.9	118.4	147.7	146.5	122.4	122.6	119.9
	Mar	116.8	110.0	218.1	198.9	118.3	149.1	149.5	122.9	123.1	120.2
	Apr	116.9	110.3	230.3	163.0	106.3	135.7	137.4	121.9	122.2	120.2
	May	117.0	110.6	210.2	143.7	117.9	126.4	134.4	121.9	122.2	120.4
	Jun	117.1	110.9	228.3	143.7	119.0	127.9	137.0	121.9	122.3	120.2
	Jul	117.2	110.9	226.2	143.7	117.9	130.3	137.6	122.0	122.4	120.3
	Aug	117.4	110.9	223.6	143.7	118.3	142.0	143.5	122.7	122.7	120.5
	Sep	117.5	111.1	232.2	138.0	118.2	141.0	143.4	123.1	122.9	120.9
	Oct	117.7	112.0	213.0	132.7	118.5	131.7	137.0	122.7	122.6	121.1
	Nov	117.8	112.1	221.7	135.8	117.1	127.9	135.4	122.8	122.9	121.4
	Dec	117.9	112.4	225.6	140.3	118.5	127.3	136.2	122.7	122.9	121.2
2004	Jan	118.0	112.5	204.7	154.3	118.5	134.6	138.9	122.8	123.0	121.1
	Feb	118.0	112.7	208.6	160.3	118.6	139.2	141.9	123.2	123.3	121.2

** Energy includes Piped Gas, Fuel Oil/Other Fuel, Electricity, and Motor Gasoline*

February 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

Vancouver

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average	Shelter	Accommodation Rented	Accommodation Owned	Water, Fuel Electricity
2000	113.9	2.2	100.8	110.2	90.6	135.7
2001	116.0	1.8	103.3	111.5	91.4	153.0
2002	118.6	2.2	103.4	113.1	91.3	150.0
2003	121.0	2.0	105.0	114.4	92.6	154.6
2003		Month / Year				
Jan	119.7	0.2 / 2.9	104.1	113.9	91.8	150.7
Feb	120.3	0.5 / 3.2	104.2	114.0	92.0	150.8
Mar	121.2	0.7 / 3.2	104.6	114.1	92.4	151.5
Apr	121.0	-0.2 / 2.2	105.1	114.3	92.5	155.9
May	120.9	-0.1 / 1.6	105.2	114.3	92.7	155.7
Jun	120.8	-0.1 / 1.5	105.2	114.4	92.8	155.7
Jul	120.9	0.1 / 1.4	105.2	114.4	92.7	155.7
Aug	121.5	0.5 / 1.8	105.1	114.5	92.6	155.7
Sep	121.8	0.2 / 1.8	105.0	114.7	92.3	155.8
Oct	121.3	-0.4 / 1.4	105.5	114.8	93.0	155.7
Nov	121.4	0.1 / 1.4	105.5	114.8	92.9	155.7
Dec	121.6	0.2 / 1.8	105.7	115.0	93.2	155.8
2004						
Jan	121.3	-0.2 / 1.3	105.5	115.2	93.0	154.0
Feb	121.8	0.4 / 1.2	105.9	115.3	93.6	154.1

Victoria

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average	Shelter	Accommodation Rented	Accommodation Owned	Water, Fuel Electricity
2000	113.0	1.7	99.2	110.5	89.1	118.8
2001	114.3	1.2	98.9	111.4	89.8	110.3
2002	117.4	2.7	100.8	113.2	90.2	120.5
2003	120.0	2.2	102.9	114.3	92.3	124.6
2003		Month / Year				
Jan	118.7	0.3 / 3.3	101.9	114.0	91.2	123.2
Feb	119.2	0.4 / 3.3	102.1	114.0	91.3	123.8
Mar	120.1	0.8 / 3.4	102.5	114.1	91.4	128.4
Apr	119.9	-0.2 / 2.4	102.6	114.2	91.7	127.1
May	119.9	0.0 / 2.0	102.8	114.1	92.2	124.6
Jun	119.7	-0.2 / 1.6	102.8	114.1	92.1	124.6
Jul	120.1	0.3 / 1.7	103.0	114.2	92.4	124.9
Aug	120.5	0.3 / 1.9	103.2	114.3	92.6	124.9
Sep	120.8	0.2 / 2.0	102.8	114.4	92.1	124.6
Oct	120.4	-0.3 / 1.8	103.7	114.6	93.4	122.9
Nov	120.5	0.1 / 1.6	103.5	114.7	93.2	122.9
Dec	120.7	0.2 / 1.9	103.9	114.9	93.6	123.7
2004						
Jan	120.6	-0.1 / 1.6	104.0	114.9	93.5	125.5
Feb	121.0	0.3 / 1.5	104.2	114.9	93.7	126.0

BRITISH COLUMBIA

BC STATS

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Consumer Price Index ◆ March 2004

Highlights

- BC's CPI rose 0.8 percent from March 2003, the smallest year-over-year increase since January 2002. Inflation across the country remains low. Ontario recorded the highest increase at 1.1%, while the provinces of Newfoundland & Labrador, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick shared a decrease of 0.1%. Nationally, prices rose 0.7% from March 2003.

- Of the metropolitan areas, Toronto posted the highest increase from March 2003 at 1.2%, followed by Victoria and Ottawa, both at 1.0%. Vancouver's CPI rose 0.8% during the same period, while Edmonton posted a decrease of 0.5%.

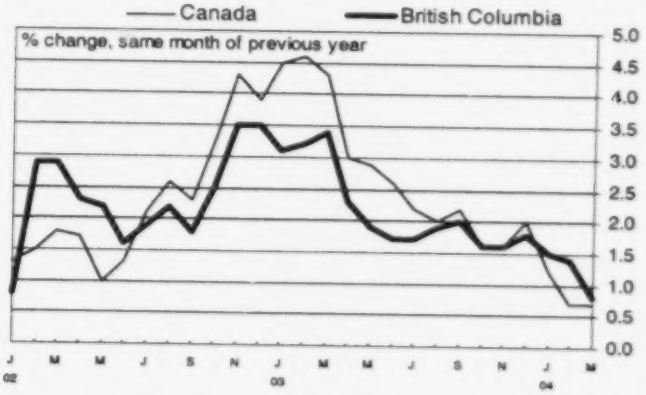
- Compared to a year ago, British Columbians paid more for tuition (+20.2%), beer (+8.9%), coffee & tea (+6.7%), cigarettes (+6.3%), piped gas (+5.0%), and property taxes (+4.4%). Offsetting these increases were lower costs for fuel oil (-8.8%), gasoline (-6.8%), fresh fruit (-4.2%), and intercity public transportation (-4.2%).

- BC's CPI, excluding food and energy, was 1.3% higher than the same month last year. The comparable figure for Canada was 1.2%.

See attached "Consumer Price Index— Terms and Definitions"

1992=100	Index	% Change From	
	March 2004	February 2004	March 2003
Canada	123.6	0.3	0.7
BC	121.6	0.2	0.8
Vancouver	122.2	0.3	0.8
Victoria	121.3	0.2	1.0
Core Canada[1]	123.7	0.3	1.3

Low Year-Over-Year Inflation Continues



1992=100	Latest 12-Month Average Index (ending in Mar. 2004)	Latest 12-Month Average % Change	2003 Annual Average % Change
Canada	122.6	1.9	2.8
BC	120.8	1.7	2.1
Vancouver	121.4	1.5	2.0
Victoria	120.5	1.7	2.2

Note: Statistics Canada will release the April Consumer Price Index on May 20, 2004.

[1]**The Core CPI for Canada:** Defined by the Bank of Canada as the All-items index excluding the eight most volatile components (fruit, vegetables, gasoline, fuel oil, natural gas, mortgage interest, intercity transportation and tobacco products). Also excluded is the effect of changes in indirect taxes on the remaining components.

Consumer Price Index—Terms and Definitions

Base Effect

The 12-month variation in the CPI is calculated by comparing the current month's index with the index for the same month of the previous year. The 12-month change is represented by the difference in the indexes of the reference months. Thus, the 12-month variation can decrease from one month to the next merely because the base serving as the point of comparison increased.

Source: Statistics Canada

Twelve-Month Percent Changes

Also referred to as "year-over-year", twelve-month percent changes compare indexes for a given month to indexes for the same month of the previous year. As they compare two points in time, they are influenced by unusual or temporary events that can affect either of the two months. Their calculation does not include any of the intervening monthly indexes.

Source: Statistics Canada

Annual Average Index

Annual average indexes are calculated by averaging index levels over the 12 months of the calendar year. These data should not be confused with the 12-month change in the CPI. By the nature of the calculation, averaging indexes over the calendar year gives a better representation of price behaviour over the whole year and is closer to the concept of an average price. The use of annual averages is considered the preferred option for indexation purposes.

Source: Statistics Canada

Latest Twelve-Month Average Index

The latest twelve-month average index (ending in the current month) is a 12-month moving average of the indexes of the most recent 12 months. It is calculated like the annual average index. Hence, in theory, the December twelve-month average index would be equal to the annual average index for the calendar year. However, in practice, when BC STATS makes these calculations from published data, the December 12-month average index may differ from Statistics Canada's published annual average index due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada and BC STATS

Changes to the Treatment of Rebates in the Consumer Price Index

Beginning with the Consumer Price Index for October 2003, Statistics Canada will change its treatment of rebate payments. The change will affect some types of rebate programs usually related to electricity or natural gas utilities.

Rebates will no longer be reflected in the CPI if they are paid on the basis of past consumption and were not known to consumers at the time of consumption.

To be reflected in the CPI, rebates or credits must relate to specific products and apply to all consumers (or a large proportion of consumers) of the product affected. CPI practice has been to reflect the impact of rebates at the time when rebates are paid. If a rebate was greater than the average monthly charge, the remainder of the rebate was reflected in following months until the rebate had been fully accounted for. Thus the CPI could reflect an average price close to zero for one month or several months in some situations. As a result, the treatment of rebates has had a significant effect on the rate of change in the CPI, making the indexes for utilities particularly volatile.

The impact of the change will be to reduce short-term fluctuations in the CPI arising from rebates on past consumption. By treating retroactive rebates as windfalls to income rather than as price changes, the level of the CPI will be higher for the months that would have been affected under the past treatment of these rebates, with a corresponding impact on annual averages.

Rebate programs known to consumers at the time of purchase will continue to be accounted for in the CPI.

Source: Statistics Canada

More information about the concepts and use of the CPI is available online in the Statistics Canada publication "Your guide to the consumer price index" (www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/62-557-XIB/free.htm).

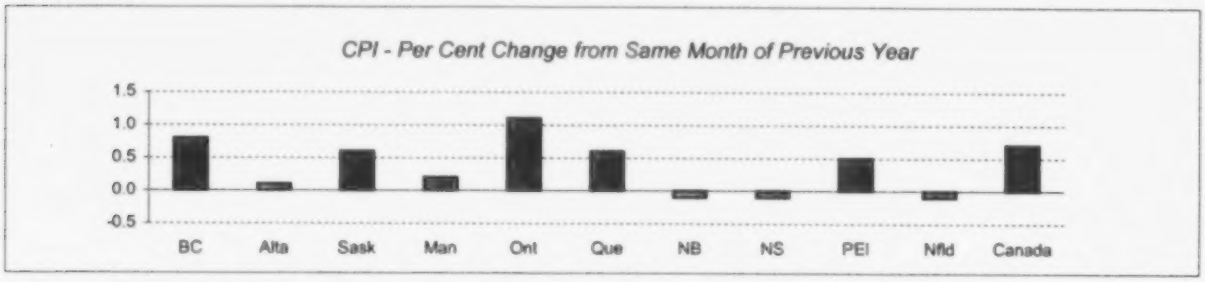
Prepared by: BC STATS, February 2004

March 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

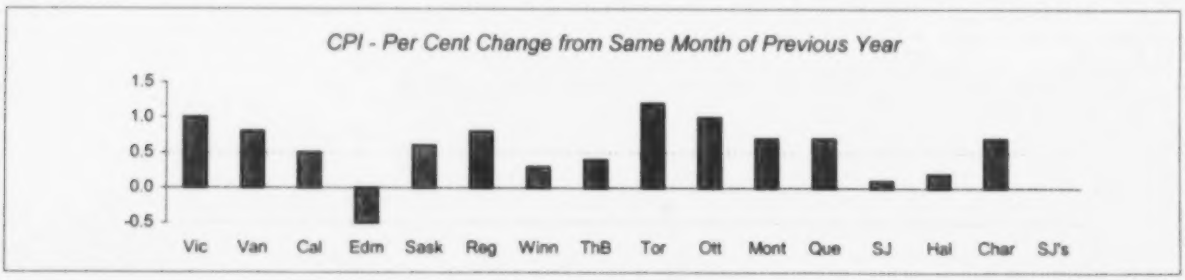
	British Columbia			Canada		
	Index	% Change		Index	% Change	
	March	February	March	March	February	March
	2004	2004	2003	2004	2004	2003
All-Items Index (1992=100)	**121.6**	**0.2**	**0.8**	**123.6**	**0.3**	**0.7**
Food	**123.5**	**0.2**	**1.0**	**123.6**	**0.2**	**1.0**
Food Purchased From Stores	121.0	0.4	0.6	122.3	0.2	0.3
Meat	129.0	-0.4	0.5	131.1	0.7	0.0
Fish & Other Seafood	128.7	-0.1	1.3	121.6	-0.6	-1.2
Dairy Products & Eggs	127.7	-0.1	2.4	126.2	0.5	2.1
Bakery & Other Cereal Products	123.2	0.3	1.2	128.4	0.4	1.6
Fruit, Fruit Preparations & Nuts	102.1	1.7	-1.8	103.3	-0.1	-1.7
Fresh Fruit	95.1	1.1	-4.2	101.9	-0.5	-3.3
Vegetables & Vegetable Preparations	103.5	3.3	-1.0	113.2	1.6	-3.7
Fresh Vegetables	101.4	4.3	-0.2	115.9	2.5	-4.5
Other Food Products	125.6	-0.5	0.6	121.4	-0.7	1.5
Coffee & Tea	131.4	-1.5	6.7	126.6	0.1	2.7
Non-Alcoholic Beverages	80.3	-0.1	-2.5	101.8	-1.0	1.0
Food Purchased From Restaurants	129.2	0.0	1.8	127.2	-0.1	2.3
Shelter	**104.6**	**-0.1**	**1.4**	**119.0**	**0.0**	**1.4**
Rented Accommodation	115.5	0.1	1.0	118.1	0.1	1.1
Owned Accommodation	92.2	-0.1	1.5	112.8	0.1	2.5
Property taxes	148.0	0.0	4.4	126.6	0.0	2.8
Water, Fuel & Electricity	145.9	0.3	1.2	144.5	-0.5	-3.5
Electricity	107.0	0.0	0.2	118.5	-0.1	0.2
Piped Gas	215.9	0.0	5.0	203.3	-2.5	-6.8
Fuel Oil & Other Fuel	162.8	6.3	-8.8	160.5	0.1	-19.3
Household Operations & Furnishings	**123.6**	**0.2**	**1.2**	**115.3**	**0.1**	**0.7**
Household Operations	130.2	-0.1	2.8	120.3	0.0	1.5
Household Furnishings	114.6	1.0	-1.7	107.6	0.3	-0.8
Clothing & Footwear	**112.9**	**0.5**	**-0.8**	**105.3**	**1.3**	**-0.2**
Clothing	109.7	0.2	-1.4	103.4	1.3	-0.7
Women's Clothing	111.1	-0.5	-2.6	104.8	2.0	-0.9
Men's Clothing	111.6	1.7	0.5	103.9	1.2	0.3
Children's Clothing	99.1	-2.0	-2.7	96.9	-1.2	-3.0
Footwear	114.4	3.0	0.5	105.0	2.6	-0.2
Transportation	**140.2**	**0.9**	**-2.1**	**142.8**	**0.6**	**-1.2**
Private Transportation	136.7	1.0	-2.0	140.6	0.8	-1.3
Operation of Motor Vehicles	143.9	1.6	-2.2	152.9	1.1	0.1
Gasoline	156.1	3.9	-6.8	142.9	2.7	-4.2
Public Transportation	172.6	0.9	-2.6	167.6	0.2	-0.9
Local & Commuter	145.1	0.0	1.6	146.3	0.0	4.2
Inter-City	183.6	1.2	-4.2	184.6	0.4	-3.9
Health & Personal Care	**123.7**	**0.2**	**1.6**	**118.3**	**0.5**	**1.9**
Health Care	128.5	0.3	2.5	123.1	0.3	1.9
Personal Care	118.8	0.2	0.4	114.7	0.5	1.9
Recreation, Education & Reading	**130.5**	**0.4**	**2.8**	**127.3**	**0.6**	**0.5**
Recreation	117.3	0.5	-1.8	114.3	0.8	-1.1
Education & Reading	180.5	0.2	16.4	176.1	0.1	5.3
Education	189.9	0.2	20.2	194.6	0.1	6.3
Reading Material & Other Printed Matter	151.0	0.3	0.7	140.8	0.2	1.3
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco Products	**142.9**	**0.0**	**5.7**	**141.3**	**0.1**	**5.6**
Alcoholic Beverages	123.5	0.2	5.2	124.0	0.2	2.8
Alcoholic Beverages Purchased from Stores	121.3	0.2	6.8	124.1	0.2	3.0
Beer Purchased from Stores	143.4	-0.2	8.9	134.6	-0.1	4.1
Liquor Purchased from Stores	103.3	0.2	2.4	109.7	0.5	1.9
Tobacco Products & Smokers' Supplies	160.5	-0.2	6.3	140.1	0.1	7.8
Cigarettes	160.4	-0.2	6.3	138.9	0.1	7.8
All-Items Excluding Food	121.2	0.2	0.8	123.7	0.4	0.7
All-Items Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	118.8	0.3	0.7	123.7	0.3	0.5
All-Items Excluding Food & Energy	118.9	0.1	1.3	121.6	0.3	1.2

March 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

Provinces	Monthly Index		% Change	Annual Index		% Change
	March 2004	February 2004	March 2003	2003	2002	2002/03
Canada	123.6	0.3	0.7	122.3	119.0	2.8
Newfoundland & Labrador	121.3	0.4	-0.1	120.7	117.3	2.9
Prince Edward Island	123.2	0.7	0.5	121.9	117.7	3.6
Nova Scotia	125.0	0.6	-0.1	123.9	119.8	3.4
New Brunswick	123.6	0.4	-0.1	122.6	118.6	3.4
Quebec	120.0	0.3	0.6	118.4	115.5	2.5
Ontario	124.9	0.4	1.1	123.3	120.1	2.7
Manitoba	126.0	0.5	0.2	125.3	123.1	1.8
Saskatchewan	127.5	0.2	0.6	126.5	123.7	2.3
Alberta	130.3	0.3	0.1	129.7	124.2	4.4
British Columbia	**121.6**	**0.2**	**0.8**	**120.4**	**117.9**	**2.1**
Whitehorse	119.9	0.5	-0.7	119.9	117.7	1.9
Yellowknife	118.2	0.4	-0.6	118.4	116.3	1.8
Iqaluit (Dec. 2002=100)	100.2	0.3	0.2	100.2	n/a	n/a



Metropolitan Areas	Monthly Index		% Change	Annual Index		% Change
	March 2004	February 2004	March 2003	2003	2002	2002/03
St. John's	121.3	0.4	0.0	120.6	117.3	2.8
Charlottetown	122.3	0.6	0.7	120.9	117.1	3.2
Halifax	124.0	0.6	0.2	122.9	119.1	3.2
Saint John	123.2	0.3	0.1	122.2	118.2	3.4
Quebec City	120.7	0.2	0.7	119.1	116.2	2.5
Montreal	120.0	0.2	0.7	118.4	115.7	2.3
Ottawa	126.5	0.4	1.0	124.9	121.9	2.5
Toronto	125.8	0.2	1.2	124.2	120.6	3.0
Thunder Bay	122.9	0.3	0.4	122.1	119.3	2.3
Winnipeg	126.2	0.5	0.3	125.5	123.3	1.8
Regina	128.6	0.3	0.8	127.5	124.6	2.3
Saskatoon	126.6	0.1	0.6	125.8	123.1	2.2
Edmonton	128.3	0.3	-0.5	128.4	121.9	5.3
Calgary	131.4	0.3	0.5	130.2	125.8	3.5
Vancouver	**122.2**	**0.3**	**0.8**	**121.0**	**118.6**	**2.0**
Victoria	**121.3**	**0.2**	**1.0**	**120.0**	**117.4**	**2.2**



Source: Statistics Canada

Produced by: BC Stats

March 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

British Columbia

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average		Food	Shelter	Household Operation	Clothing Footwear	Trans-portation	Health & Personal	Recreation Education	Alcohol Tobacco
2000	113.3	1.9		113.0	99.6	116.9	112.1	130.0	116.7	121.2	109.7
2001	115.2	1.7		117.4	101.2	118.0	112.6	130.5	119.7	122.6	112.3
2002	117.9	2.3		120.6	101.9	121.0	112.6	135.0	121.9	124.7	126.7
2003	120.4	2.1		122.8	103.7	122.3	111.4	139.3	122.8	129.0	136.0
2003		Month	Year								
Jan	119.0	0.2	3.1	122.1	102.7	121.3	110.3	138.0	122.8	125.1	132.2
Feb	119.6	0.5	3.2	121.1	102.9	122.3	112.0	140.3	122.7	126.0	134.0
Mar	120.6	0.8	3.4	122.3	103.2	122.1	113.8	143.2	121.8	126.9	135.2
Apr	120.4	-0.2	2.3	122.7	103.6	121.7	113.5	140.7	122.6	126.9	135.3
May	120.4	0.0	1.9	123.3	103.8	121.9	112.1	138.7	121.9	128.7	136.3
Jun	120.2	-0.2	1.7	123.3	103.8	122.0	110.4	138.2	121.7	128.4	136.4
Jul	120.5	0.2	1.7	123.3	103.8	122.3	111.4	138.6	122.2	129.5	136.4
Aug	120.9	0.3	1.9	123.3	103.9	122.4	109.4	141.0	123.5	129.6	136.8
Sep	121.2	0.2	2.0	122.4	103.7	123.1	113.0	139.9	123.9	133.6	137.0
Oct	120.6	-0.5	1.6	122.3	104.3	122.5	112.5	136.3	124.2	132.3	136.9
Nov	120.8	0.2	1.6	123.5	104.2	122.7	110.1	138.2	123.3	130.9	137.0
Dec	120.9	0.1	1.8	124.4	104.5	122.7	108.8	138.1	122.6	130.3	138.5
2004											
Jan	120.8	-0.1	1.5	124.1	104.4	122.6	109.2	138.4	122.8	128.7	140.9
Feb	121.3	0.4	1.4	123.2	104.7	123.3	112.3	138.9	123.4	130.0	142.9
Mar	121.6	0.2	0.8	123.5	104.6	123.6	112.9	140.2	123.7	130.5	142.9

Canada

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average		Food	Shelter	Household Operation	Clothing Footwear	Trans-portation	Health & Personal	Recreation Education	Alcohol Tobacco
2000	113.5	2.7		112.2	108.8	110.0	105.5	130.7	112.0	122.5	97.6
2001	116.4	2.6		117.2	112.8	112.2	106.0	130.8	114.2	124.3	105.1
2002	119.0	2.2		120.3	113.8	113.8	105.2	134.4	115.5	126.3	123.6
2003	122.3	2.8		122.4	117.5	114.6	103.3	141.4	117.0	127.3	136.0
2003		Month	Year								
Jan	121.4	0.8	4.5	122.3	116.2	113.9	101.6	141.9	116.1	125.4	132.0
Feb	122.3	0.7	4.6	122.1	116.7	114.5	103.8	144.1	116.4	127.1	133.5
Mar	122.8	0.4	4.3	122.4	117.4	114.5	105.5	144.6	116.1	126.7	133.8
Apr	121.9	-0.7	3.0	122.4	116.5	114.5	103.8	141.8	116.8	126.3	134.5
May	122.0	0.1	2.9	122.8	117.1	114.5	103.4	139.8	117.1	127.2	136.2
Jun	122.1	0.1	2.6	123.2	117.7	114.5	101.0	139.5	116.8	127.6	136.4
Jul	122.2	0.1	2.2	123.2	117.6	114.6	101.6	139.9	116.9	127.9	136.6
Aug	122.5	0.2	2.0	122.1	117.7	114.7	101.8	142.4	117.4	128.0	137.1
Sep	122.7	0.2	2.2	121.3	117.9	115.1	105.0	141.9	117.6	128.9	137.1
Oct	122.4	-0.2	1.6	121.1	118.2	115.1	105.0	139.7	117.7	128.3	137.0
Nov	122.7	0.2	1.6	122.3	118.3	114.9	104.2	140.9	118.0	127.5	137.6
Dec	122.8	0.1	2.0	123.4	118.8	114.9	102.5	140.8	117.6	126.5	140.1
2004											
Jan	122.9	0.1	1.2	123.7	118.7	114.9	102.3	142.2	117.7	125.3	140.8
Feb	123.2	0.2	0.7	123.4	119.0	115.2	104.0	141.9	117.7	126.6	141.1
Mar	123.6	0.3	0.7	123.6	119.0	115.3	105.3	142.8	118.3	127.3	141.3

March 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

BRITISH COLUMBIA		Rented Accom-modation	Owned Accom-modation	Energy for Dwellings			Motor Gasoline	Energy*	Excluding Excluding Food	Excluding Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	Excluding Excluding Food & Energy
				Piped Gas	Fuel Oil/ Other Fuel	Electricity[1]					
	2000	110.7	89.0	167.4	137.6	105.7	134.3	130.8	113.4	111.5	111.9
	2001	111.9	89.7	222.9	141.0	91.9	134.3	134.3	114.7	113.3	113.0
	2002	113.5	89.7	198.6	131.6	106.3	135.7	135.9	117.3	115.5	115.7
	2003	114.7	91.3	223.7	151.0	106.9	148.4	144.9	119.9	117.8	117.8
2003	Jan	114.2	90.5	202.7	143.4	106.8	141.6	139.8	118.4	116.5	116.5
	Feb	114.3	90.6	202.7	150.5	106.8	154.0	146.1	119.3	117.0	117.0
	Mar	114.4	90.8	205.7	178.6	106.8	167.4	153.5	120.2	118.0	117.4
	Apr	114.5	91.0	230.3	165.0	106.8	153.1	147.9	119.9	117.8	117.5
	May	114.5	91.3	230.3	149.8	106.8	142.0	142.1	119.8	117.7	117.6
	Jun	114.6	91.3	230.3	149.8	106.8	142.2	142.2	119.6	117.6	117.6
	Jul	114.7	91.3	230.3	149.8	107.0	144.0	143.2	119.9	117.8	117.9
	Aug	114.7	91.3	230.3	149.8	107.0	160.0	151.0	120.4	118.2	117.8
	Sep	114.8	91.1	230.3	151.1	107.0	157.3	149.8	121.0	118.6	118.5
	Oct	114.9	91.9	230.3	140.2	107.0	140.0	141.0	120.3	118.0	118.5
	Nov	115.0	91.8	230.3	138.6	107.0	141.1	141.6	120.3	118.1	118.4
	Dec	115.2	92.1	230.3	145.4	107.0	138.5	140.4	120.2	118.2	118.4
2004	Jan	115.3	92.0	215.9	150.0	107.0	141.1	140.8	120.1	118.0	118.2
	Feb	115.4	92.3	215.9	153.1	107.0	150.2	145.3	120.9	118.4	118.8
	Mar	115.5	92.2	215.9	162.8	107.0	156.1	148.5	121.2	118.8	118.9

[1] electricity figure for 2001 reflects BC Hydro rebates in February and March

CANADA		Rented Accom-modation	Owned Accom-modation	Energy for Dwellings			Motor Gasoline	Energy*	Excluding Excluding Food	All Items Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	All Items Excluding Food & Energy
				Piped Gas	Fuel Oil/ Other Fuel	Electricity					
	2000	111.5	102.9	158.9	143.2	109.2	131.7	128.1	113.9	115.0	112.2
	2001	113.3	105.9	206.0	143.5	111.1	128.3	132.3	116.3	117.7	114.4
	2002	115.5	107.6	168.7	131.8	119.6	127.2	129.6	118.8	119.6	117.5
	2003	117.2	110.9	219.5	151.5	117.2	135.4	139.9	122.4	122.5	120.5
2003	Jan	116.6	109.4	201.3	158.1	118.4	138.0	140.4	121.3	121.7	119.2
	Feb	116.7	109.7	203.5	176.9	118.4	147.7	146.5	122.4	122.6	119.9
	Mar	116.8	110.0	218.1	198.9	118.3	149.1	149.5	122.9	123.1	120.2
	Apr	116.9	110.3	230.3	163.0	106.3	135.7	137.4	121.9	122.2	120.2
	May	117.0	110.6	210.2	143.7	117.9	126.4	134.4	121.9	122.2	120.4
	Jun	117.1	110.9	228.3	143.7	119.0	127.9	137.0	121.9	122.3	120.2
	Jul	117.2	110.9	226.2	143.7	117.9	130.3	137.6	122.0	122.4	120.3
	Aug	117.4	110.9	223.6	143.7	118.3	142.0	143.5	122.7	122.7	120.5
	Sep	117.5	111.1	232.2	138.0	118.2	141.0	143.4	123.1	122.9	120.9
	Oct	117.7	112.0	213.0	132.7	118.5	131.7	137.0	122.7	122.6	121.1
	Nov	117.8	112.1	221.7	135.8	117.1	127.9	135.4	122.8	122.9	121.4
	Dec	117.9	112.4	225.6	140.3	118.5	127.3	136.2	122.7	122.9	121.2
2004	Jan	118.0	112.5	204.7	154.3	118.5	134.6	138.9	122.8	123.0	121.1
	Feb	118.0	112.7	208.6	160.3	118.6	139.2	141.9	123.2	123.3	121.2
	Mar	118.1	112.8	203.3	160.5	118.5	142.9	143.3	123.7	123.7	121.6

** Energy includes Piped Gas, Fuel Oil/Other Fuel, Electricity, and Motor Gasoline*

March 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

Vancouver

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average	Shelter	Accommodation Rented	Accommodation Owned	Water, Fuel Electricity
2000	113.9	2.2	100.8	110.2	90.6	135.7
2001	116.0	1.8	103.3	111.5	91.4	153.0
2002	118.6	2.2	103.4	113.1	91.3	150.0
2003	121.0	2.0	105.0	114.4	92.6	154.6
2003		Month / Year				
Jan	119.7	0.2 / 2.9	104.1	113.9	91.8	150.7
Feb	120.3	0.5 / 3.2	104.2	114.0	92.0	150.8
Mar	121.2	0.7 / 3.2	104.6	114.1	92.4	151.5
Apr	121.0	-0.2 / 2.2	105.1	114.3	92.5	155.9
May	120.9	-0.1 / 1.6	105.2	114.3	92.7	155.7
Jun	120.8	-0.1 / 1.5	105.2	114.4	92.8	155.7
Jul	120.9	0.1 / 1.4	105.2	114.4	92.7	155.7
Aug	121.5	0.5 / 1.8	105.1	114.5	92.6	155.7
Sep	121.8	0.2 / 1.8	105.0	114.7	92.3	155.8
Oct	121.3	-0.4 / 1.4	105.5	114.8	93.0	155.7
Nov	121.4	0.1 / 1.4	105.5	114.8	92.9	155.7
Dec	121.6	0.2 / 1.8	105.7	115.0	93.2	155.8
2004						
Jan	121.3	-0.2 / 1.3	105.5	115.2	93.0	154.0
Feb	121.8	0.4 / 1.2	105.9	115.3	93.6	154.1
Mar	122.2	0.3 / 0.8	105.8	115.4	93.4	154.2

Victoria

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average	Shelter	Accommodation Rented	Accommodation Owned	Water, Fuel Electricity
2000	113.0	1.7	99.2	110.5	89.1	118.8
2001	114.3	1.2	98.9	111.4	89.8	110.3
2002	117.4	2.7	100.8	113.2	90.2	120.5
2003	120.0	2.2	102.9	114.3	92.3	124.6
2003		Month / Year				
Jan	118.7	0.3 / 3.3	101.9	114.0	91.2	123.2
Feb	119.2	0.4 / 3.3	102.1	114.0	91.3	123.8
Mar	120.1	0.8 / 3.4	102.5	114.1	91.4	128.4
Apr	119.9	-0.2 / 2.4	102.6	114.2	91.7	127.1
May	119.9	0.0 / 2.0	102.8	114.1	92.2	124.6
Jun	119.7	-0.2 / 1.6	102.8	114.1	92.1	124.6
Jul	120.1	0.3 / 1.7	103.0	114.2	92.4	124.9
Aug	120.5	0.3 / 1.9	103.2	114.3	92.6	124.9
Sep	120.8	0.2 / 2.0	102.8	114.4	92.1	124.6
Oct	120.4	-0.3 / 1.8	103.7	114.6	93.4	122.9
Nov	120.5	0.1 / 1.6	103.5	114.7	93.2	122.9
Dec	120.7	0.2 / 1.9	103.9	114.9	93.6	123.7
2004						
Jan	120.6	-0.1 / 1.6	104.0	114.9	93.5	125.5
Feb	121.0	0.3 / 1.5	104.2	114.9	93.7	126.0
Mar	121.3	0.2 / 1.0	104.2	115.0	93.4	127.8

BRITISH COLUMBIA

BC STATS

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Consumer Price Index ◆ April 2004

Highlights

- BC's CPI rose 1.7 percent from April 2003. Among the provinces, Ontario recorded the highest increase at 2.3%, while Alberta had the lowest increase at 0.3%. Nationally, prices rose 1.6% from April 2003.

- Of the metropolitan areas, Ottawa posted the highest increase from April 2003 at 2.4%, followed by Victoria and Regina, both at 1.9%. Vancouver's CPI rose 1.7% during the same period, while Edmonton posted a decrease of 0.1%

- Compared to a year ago, British Columbians paid more for tuition (+20.2%), beer (+8.6%), gasoline (+7.0%), electricity (+6.7%), and cigarettes (+6.6%). Offsetting these increases were lower costs for fresh vegetables (-6.8%), natural gas (-6.3%), and fish & other seafood (-3.3%).

- BC's Energy Index (which includes natural gas, fuel oil, electricity and gasoline) rose 4.6% from last month, mostly attributable to a sharp rise in electricity prices (+6.5%). While the price of natural gas remained unchanged from March, gasoline prices rose 4.9% from last month, and fuel oil prices dropped 1.7%.

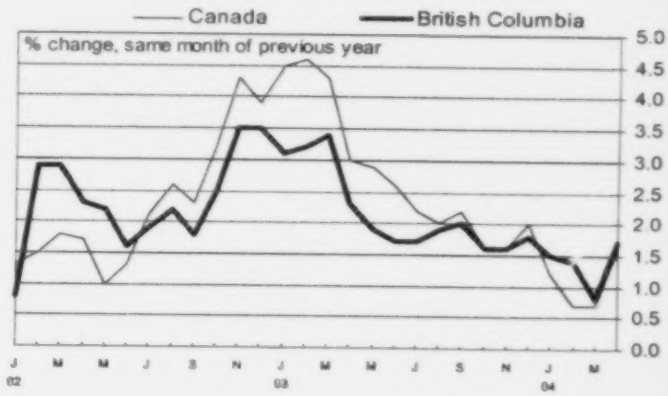
- BC's CPI, excluding food and energy, was 1.5% higher than the same month last year. The comparable figure for Canada was 1.2%.

See attached "Consumer Price Index – Terms and Definitions"

Note: Statistics Canada will release the May Consumer Price Index on June 20, 2004.

1992=100	Index	% Change From	
	April 2004	March 2004	April 2003
Canada	123.9	0.2	1.6
BC	122.4	0.7	1.7
Vancouver	123.0	0.7	1.7
Victoria	122.2	0.7	1.9
Core Canada[1]	123.9	0.2	1.8

Sharp Increase in Inflation Trend



1992=100	Latest 12-Month Average Index (ending in Apr. 2004)	Latest 12-Month Average % Change	2003 Annual Average % Change
Canada	122.8	1.8	2.8
BC	121.0	1.6	2.1
Vancouver	121.5	1.5	2.0
Victoria	120.6	1.7	2.2

[1]**The Core CPI for Canada:** Defined by the Bank of Canada as the All-items index excluding the eight most volatile components (fruit, vegetables, gasoline, fuel oil, natural gas, mortgage interest, intercity transportation and tobacco products). Also excluded is the effect of changes in indirect taxes on the remaining components.

Consumer Price Index—Terms and Definitions

Base Effect

The 12-month variation in the CPI is calculated by comparing the current month's index with the index for the same month of the previous year. The 12-month change is represented by the difference in the indexes of the reference months. Thus, the 12-month variation can decrease from one month to the next merely because the base serving as the point of comparison increased.

Source: Statistics Canada

Twelve-Month Percent Changes

Also referred to as "year-over-year", twelve-month percent changes compare indexes for a given month to indexes for the same month of the previous year. As they compare two points in time, they are influenced by unusual or temporary events that can affect either of the two months. Their calculation does not include any of the intervening monthly indexes.

Source: Statistics Canada

Annual Average Index

Annual average indexes are calculated by averaging index levels over the 12 months of the calendar year. These data should not be confused with the 12-month change in the CPI. By the nature of the calculation, averaging indexes over the calendar year gives a better representation of price behaviour over the whole year and is closer to the concept of an average price. The use of annual averages is considered the preferred option for indexation purposes.

Source: Statistics Canada

Latest Twelve-Month Average Index

The latest twelve-month average index (ending in the current month) is a 12-month moving average of the indexes of the most recent 12 months. It is calculated like the annual average index. Hence, in theory, the December twelve-month average index would be equal to the annual average index for the calendar year. However, in practice, when BC STATS makes these calculations from published data, the December 12-month average index may differ from Statistics Canada's published annual average index due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada and BC Stats

Changes to the Treatment of Rebates in the Consumer Price Index

Beginning with the Consumer Price Index for October 2003, Statistics Canada will change its treatment of rebate payments. The change will affect some types of rebate programs usually related to electricity or natural gas utilities.

Rebates will no longer be reflected in the CPI if they are paid on the basis of past consumption and were not known to consumers at the time of consumption.

To be reflected in the CPI, rebates or credits must relate to specific products and apply to all consumers (or a large proportion of consumers) of the product affected. CPI practice has been to reflect the impact of rebates at the time when rebates are paid. If a rebate was greater than the average monthly charge, the remainder of the rebate was reflected in following months until the rebate had been fully accounted for. Thus the CPI could reflect an average price close to zero for one month or several months in some situations. As a result, the treatment

of rebates has had a significant effect on the rate of change in the CPI, making the indexes for utilities particularly volatile.

The impact of the change will be to reduce short-term fluctuations in the CPI arising from rebates on past consumption. By treating retroactive rebates as windfalls to income rather than as price changes, the level of the CPI will be higher for the months that would have been affected under the past treatment of these rebates, with a corresponding impact on annual averages.

Rebate programs known to consumers at the time of purchase will continue to be accounted for in the CPI.

Source: Statistics Canada

More information about the concepts and use of the CPI is available online in the Statistics Canada publication *Your Guide to the Consumer Price Index* (www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/62-557-XIB/free.htm).

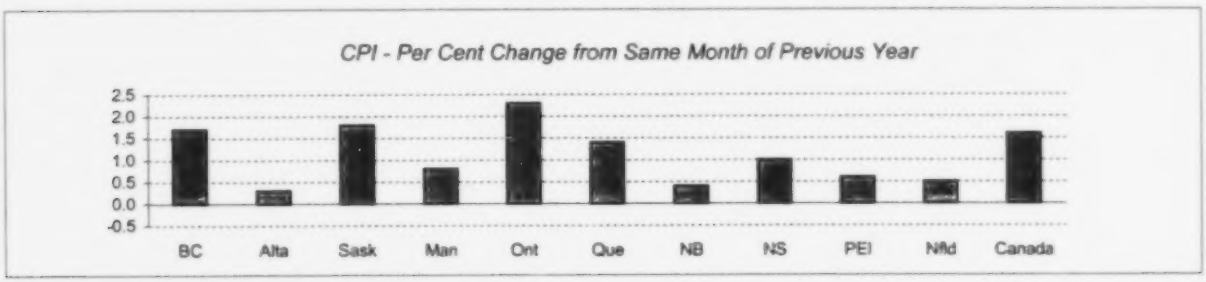
Prepared by: BC Stats, February 2004

April 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

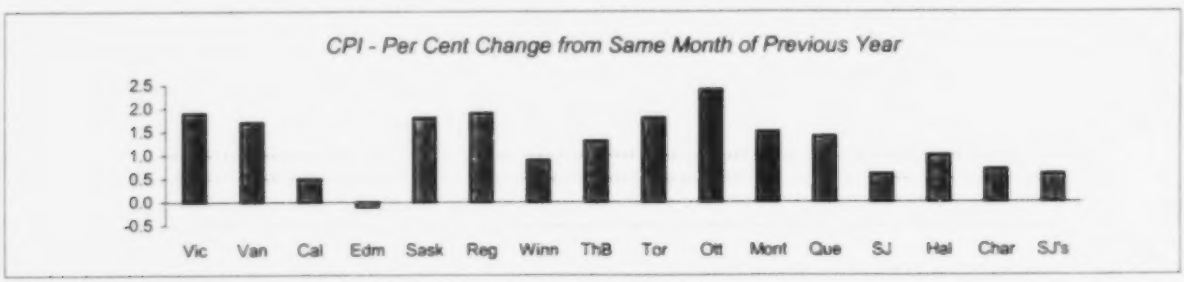
	British Columbia			Canada		
	Index April 2004	% Change March 2004	% Change April 2003	Index April 2004	% Change March 2004	% Change April 2003
All-Items Index (1992=100)	**122.4**	**0.7**	**1.7**	**123.9**	**0.2**	**1.6**
Food	**123.7**	**0.2**	**0.8**	**123.4**	**-0.2**	**0.8**
Food Purchased From Stores	121.0	0.0	0.1	121.9	-0.3	0.1
Meat	128.9	-0.1	-1.2	130.4	-0.5	-0.6
Fish & Other Seafood	124.5	-3.3	-3.3	121.3	-0.2	-1.2
Dairy Products & Eggs	127.3	-0.3	2.1	125.8	-0.3	1.8
Bakery & Other Cereal Products	123.9	0.6	1.5	129.7	1.0	2.3
Fruit, Fruit Preparations & Nuts	104.4	2.3	0.7	104.5	1.2	-0.6
Fresh Fruit	99.4	4.5	1.4	105.2	3.2	0.1
Vegetables & Vegetable Preparations	100.1	-3.3	-5.6	107.6	-4.9	-6.9
Fresh Vegetables	97.0	-4.3	-6.8	108.9	-6.0	-8.6
Other Food Products	126.8	1.0	1.7	121.5	0.1	1.4
Coffee & Tea	130.2	-0.9	1.0	125.5	-0.9	0.7
Non-Alcoholic Beverages	80.6	0.4	0.9	100.7	-1.1	-0.2
Food Purchased From Restaurants	129.6	0.3	2.2	127.6	0.3	2.4
Shelter	**105.7**	**1.1**	**2.0**	**119.6**	**0.5**	**2.7**
Rented Accommodation	115.8	0.3	1.1	118.2	0.1	1.1
Owned Accommodation	92.9	0.8	2.1	113.1	0.3	2.5
Property taxes	148.0	0.0	4.4	126.6	0.0	2.8
Water, Fuel & Electricity	151.8	4.0	3.3	148.0	2.4	5.8
Electricity	114.0	6.5	6.7	122.4	3.3	15.1
Piped Gas	215.9	0.0	-6.3	209.9	3.2	-8.9
Fuel Oil & Other Fuel	160.0	-1.7	-3.0	156.8	-2.3	-3.8
Household Operations & Furnishings	**123.9**	**0.2**	**1.8**	**115.6**	**0.3**	**1.0**
Household Operations	130.6	0.3	3.2	120.5	0.2	1.8
Household Furnishings	114.6	0.0	-0.8	108.2	0.6	-0.5
Clothing & Footwear	**111.3**	**-1.4**	**-1.9**	**103.8**	**-1.4**	**0.0**
Clothing	108.0	-1.5	-2.1	101.4	-1.9	-0.1
Women's Clothing	108.7	-2.2	-2.9	102.1	-2.6	0.4
Men's Clothing	110.3	-1.2	-1.4	102.4	-1.4	-0.4
Children's Clothing	98.6	-0.5	-0.8	95.6	-1.3	-1.7
Footwear	113.5	-0.8	-2.1	104.9	-0.1	-0.7
Transportation	**142.4**	**1.6**	**1.2**	**143.5**	**0.5**	**1.2**
Private Transportation	138.7	1.5	1.4	141.0	0.3	1.3
Operation of Motor Vehicles	147.1	2.2	3.5	153.6	0.5	4.4
Gasoline	163.8	4.9	7.0	145.0	1.5	6.9
Public Transportation	176.7	2.4	-0.8	170.8	1.9	0.4
Local & Commuter	145.4	0.2	1.8	146.4	0.1	4.1
Inter-City	189.5	3.2	-1.8	190.2	3.0	-1.8
Health & Personal Care	**125.1**	**1.1**	**2.0**	**119.0**	**0.6**	**1.9**
Health Care	129.9	1.1	1.9	124.8	1.4	2.0
Personal Care	120.2	1.2	2.1	114.6	-0.1	1.9
Recreation, Education & Reading	**130.4**	**-0.1**	**2.8**	**127.1**	**-0.2**	**0.6**
Recreation	117.1	-0.2	-1.8	114.0	-0.3	-0.9
Education & Reading	180.7	0.1	16.4	176.2	0.1	5.3
Education	189.9	0.0	20.2	194.6	0.0	6.3
Reading Material & Other Printed Matter	151.9	0.6	0.7	141.2	0.3	1.4
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco Products	**143.1**	**0.1**	**5.8**	**142.2**	**0.6**	**5.7**
Alcoholic Beverages	123.3	-0.2	4.9	124.1	0.1	2.9
Alcoholic Beverages Purchased from Stores	121.0	-0.2	6.4	124.2	0.1	3.0
Beer Purchased from Stores	143.0	-0.3	8.6	134.8	0.1	4.1
Liquor Purchased from Stores	102.2	-1.1	1.0	109.4	-0.3	1.6
Tobacco Products & Smokers' Supplies	161.1	0.4	6.5	141.7	1.1	8.0
Cigarettes	161.0	0.4	6.6	140.4	1.1	7.9
All-Items Excluding Food	122.1	0.7	1.8	124.0	0.2	1.7
All-Items Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	119.6	0.7	1.5	123.9	0.2	1.4
All-Items Excluding Food & Energy	119.3	0.3	1.5	121.7	0.1	1.2

April 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

Provinces	Monthly Index	% Change		Annual Index		% Change
	April 2004	March 2004	April 2003	2003	2002	2002/03
Canada	123.9	0.2	1.6	122.3	119.0	2.8
Newfoundland & Labrador	121.6	0.2	0.5	120.7	117.3	2.9
Prince Edward Island	123.9	0.6	0.6	121.9	117.7	3.6
Nova Scotia	125.1	0.1	1.0	123.9	119.8	3.4
New Brunswick	123.5	-0.1	0.4	122.6	118.6	3.4
Quebec	119.9	-0.1	1.4	118.4	115.5	2.5
Ontario	125.1	0.2	2.3	123.3	120.1	2.7
Manitoba	126.4	0.3	0.8	125.3	123.1	1.8
Saskatchewan	128.4	0.7	1.8	126.5	123.7	2.3
Alberta	130.6	0.2	0.3	129.7	124.2	4.4
British Columbia	**122.4**	**0.7**	**1.7**	**120.4**	**117.9**	**2.1**
Whitehorse	120.2	0.3	-0.1	119.9	117.7	1.9
Yellowknife	118.4	0.2	-0.7	118.4	116.3	1.8
Iqaluit (Dec. 2002=100)	100.8	0.6	0.9	100.2	n/a	n/a



Metropolitan Areas	Monthly Index	% Change		Annual Index		% Change
	April 2004	March 2004	April 2003	2003	2002	2002/03
St. John's	121.6	0.2	0.6	120.6	117.3	2.8
Charlottetown	122.9	0.5	0.7	120.9	117.1	3.2
Halifax	124.1	0.1	1.0	122.9	119.1	3.2
Saint John	123.1	-0.1	0.6	122.2	118.2	3.4
Quebec City	120.6	-0.1	1.4	119.1	116.2	2.5
Montreal	120.0	0.0	1.5	118.4	115.7	2.3
Ottawa	126.7	0.2	2.4	124.9	121.9	2.5
Toronto	125.7	-0.1	1.8	124.2	120.6	3.0
Thunder Bay	123.3	0.3	1.3	122.1	119.3	2.3
Winnipeg	126.6	0.3	0.9	125.5	123.3	1.8
Regina	129.4	0.6	1.9	127.5	124.6	2.3
Saskatoon	127.5	0.7	1.8	125.8	123.1	2.2
Edmonton	128.7	0.3	-0.1	128.4	121.9	5.3
Calgary	131.6	0.2	0.5	130.2	125.8	3.5
Vancouver	**123.0**	**0.7**	**1.7**	**121.0**	**118.6**	**2.0**
Victoria	**122.2**	**0.7**	**1.9**	**120.0**	**117.4**	**2.2**



Source: Statistics Canada

Produced by: BC Stats

April 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

British Columbia

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average		Food	Shelter	Household Operation	Clothing Footwear	Trans-portation	Health & Personal	Recreation Education	Alcohol Tobacco
2000	113.3	1.9		113.0	99.6	116.9	112.1	130.0	116.7	121.2	109.7
2001	115.2	1.7		117.4	101.2	118.0	112.6	130.5	119.7	122.6	112.3
2002	117.9	2.3		120.6	101.9	121.0	112.6	135.0	121.9	124.7	126.7
2003	120.4	2.1		122.8	103.7	122.3	111.4	139.3	122.8	129.0	136.0
2003		Month	Year								
Jan	119.0	0.2	3.1	122.1	102.7	121.3	110.3	138.0	122.8	125.1	132.2
Feb	119.6	0.5	3.2	121.1	102.9	122.3	112.0	140.3	122.7	126.0	134.0
Mar	120.6	0.8	3.4	122.3	103.2	122.1	113.8	143.2	121.8	126.9	135.2
Apr	120.4	-0.2	2.3	122.7	103.6	121.7	113.5	140.7	122.6	126.9	135.3
May	120.4	0.0	1.9	123.3	103.8	121.9	112.1	138.7	121.9	128.7	136.3
Jun	120.2	-0.2	1.7	123.3	103.8	122.0	110.4	138.2	121.7	128.4	136.4
Jul	120.5	0.2	1.7	123.3	103.8	122.3	111.4	138.6	122.2	129.5	136.4
Aug	120.9	0.3	1.9	123.3	103.9	122.4	109.4	141.0	123.5	129.6	136.8
Sep	121.2	0.2	2.0	122.4	103.7	123.1	113.0	139.9	123.9	133.6	137.0
Oct	120.6	-0.5	1.6	122.3	104.3	122.5	112.5	136.3	124.2	132.3	136.9
Nov	120.8	0.2	1.6	123.5	104.2	122.7	110.1	138.2	123.3	130.9	137.0
Dec	120.9	0.1	1.8	124.4	104.5	122.7	108.8	138.1	122.6	130.3	138.5
2004											
Jan	120.8	-0.1	1.5	124.1	104.4	122.6	109.2	138.4	122.8	128.7	140.9
Feb	121.3	0.4	1.4	123.2	104.7	123.3	112.3	138.9	123.4	130.0	142.9
Mar	121.6	0.2	0.8	123.5	104.6	123.6	112.9	140.2	123.7	130.5	142.9
Apr	122.4	0.7	1.7	123.7	105.7	123.9	111.3	142.4	125.1	130.4	143.1

Canada

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average		Food	Shelter	Household Operation	Clothing Footwear	Trans-portation	Health & Personal	Recreation Education	Alcohol Tobacco
2000	113.5	2.7		112.2	108.8	110.0	105.5	130.7	112.0	122.5	97.6
2001	116.4	2.6		117.2	112.8	112.2	106.0	130.8	114.2	124.3	105.1
2002	119.0	2.2		120.3	113.8	113.8	105.2	134.4	115.5	126.3	123.6
2003	122.3	2.8		122.4	117.5	114.6	103.3	141.4	117.0	127.3	136.0
2003		Month	Year								
Jan	121.4	0.8	4.5	122.3	116.2	113.9	101.6	141.9	116.1	125.4	132.0
Feb	122.3	0.7	4.6	122.1	116.7	114.5	103.8	144.1	116.4	127.1	133.5
Mar	122.8	0.4	4.3	122.4	117.4	114.5	105.5	144.6	116.1	126.7	133.8
Apr	121.9	-0.7	3.0	122.4	116.5	114.5	103.8	141.8	116.8	126.3	134.5
May	122.0	0.1	2.9	122.8	117.1	114.5	103.4	139.8	117.1	127.2	136.2
Jun	122.1	0.1	2.6	123.2	117.7	114.5	101.0	139.5	116.8	127.6	136.4
Jul	122.2	0.1	2.2	123.2	117.6	114.6	101.6	139.9	116.9	127.9	136.6
Aug	122.5	0.2	2.0	122.1	117.7	114.7	101.8	142.4	117.4	128.0	137.1
Sep	122.7	0.2	2.2	121.3	117.9	115.1	105.0	141.9	117.6	128.9	137.1
Oct	122.4	-0.2	1.6	121.1	118.2	115.1	105.0	139.7	117.7	128.3	137.0
Nov	122.7	0.2	1.6	122.3	118.3	114.9	104.2	140.9	118.0	127.5	137.6
Dec	122.8	0.1	2.0	123.4	118.8	114.9	102.5	140.8	117.6	126.5	140.1
2004											
Jan	122.9	0.1	1.2	123.7	118.7	114.9	102.3	142.2	117.7	125.3	140.8
Feb	123.2	0.2	0.7	123.4	119.0	115.2	104.0	141.9	117.7	126.6	141.1
Mar	123.6	0.3	0.7	123.6	119.0	115.3	105.3	142.8	118.3	127.3	141.3
Apr	123.9	0.2	1.6	123.4	119.6	115.6	103.8	143.5	119.0	127.1	142.2

April 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100) - Selected Items

BRITISH COLUMBIA		Rented Accom-modation	Owned Accom-modation	Energy for Dwellings			Motor Gasoline	Energy*	All Items Excluding Food	All Items Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	All Items Excluding Food & Energy
				Piped Gas	Fuel Oil/ Other Fuel	Electricity[1]					
	2000	110.7	89.0	167.4	137.6	105.7	134.3	130.8	113.4	111.5	111.9
	2001	111.9	89.7	222.9	141.0	91.9	134.3	134.3	114.7	113.3	113.0
	2002	113.5	89.7	198.6	131.6	106.3	135.7	135.9	117.3	115.5	115.7
	2003	114.7	91.3	223.7	151.0	106.9	148.4	144.9	119.9	117.8	117.8
2003	Jan	114.2	90.5	202.7	143.4	106.8	141.6	139.8	118.4	116.5	116.5
	Feb	114.3	90.6	202.7	150.5	106.8	154.0	146.1	119.3	117.0	117.0
	Mar	114.4	90.8	205.7	178.6	106.8	167.4	153.5	120.2	118.0	117.4
	Apr	114.5	91.0	230.3	165.0	106.8	153.1	147.9	119.9	117.8	117.5
	May	114.5	91.3	230.3	149.8	106.8	142.0	142.1	119.8	117.7	117.8
	Jun	114.6	91.3	230.3	149.8	106.8	142.2	142.2	119.6	117.6	117.6
	Jul	114.7	91.3	230.3	149.8	107.0	144.0	143.2	119.9	117.8	117.9
	Aug	114.7	91.3	230.3	149.8	107.0	160.0	151.0	120.4	118.2	117.8
	Sep	114.8	91.1	230.3	151.1	107.0	157.3	149.8	121.0	118.6	118.5
	Oct	114.9	91.9	230.3	140.2	107.0	140.0	141.0	120.3	118.0	118.5
	Nov	115.0	91.8	230.3	138.6	107.0	141.1	141.6	120.3	118.1	118.4
	Dec	115.2	92.1	230.3	145.4	107.0	138.5	140.4	120.2	118.2	118.4
2004	Jan	115.3	92.0	215.9	150.0	107.0	141.1	140.8	120.1	118.0	118.2
	Feb	115.4	92.3	215.9	153.1	107.0	150.2	145.3	120.9	118.4	118.8
	Mar	115.5	92.2	215.9	162.8	107.0	156.1	148.5	121.2	118.8	118.9
	Apr	115.8	92.9	215.9	160.0	114.0	163.8	155.3	122.1	119.6	119.3

[1] *electricity figure for 2001 reflects BC Hydro rebates in February and March*

CANADA		Rented Accom-modation	Owned Accom-modation	Energy for Dwellings			Motor Gasoline	Energy*	All Items Excluding Food	All Items Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	All Items Excluding Food & Energy
				Piped Gas	Fuel Oil/ Other Fuel	Electricity					
	2000	111.5	102.9	158.9	143.2	109.2	131.7	128.1	113.9	115.0	112.2
	2001	113.3	105.9	206.0	143.5	111.1	128.3	132.3	116.3	117.7	114.4
	2002	115.5	107.6	168.7	131.8	119.6	127.2	129.6	118.8	119.6	117.5
	2003	117.2	110.9	219.5	151.5	117.2	135.4	139.9	122.4	122.5	120.5
2003	Jan	116.6	109.4	201.3	158.1	118.4	138.0	140.4	121.3	121.7	119.2
	Feb	116.7	109.7	203.5	176.9	118.4	147.7	146.5	122.4	122.6	119.9
	Mar	116.8	110.0	218.1	198.9	118.3	149.1	149.5	122.9	123.1	120.2
	Apr	116.9	110.3	230.3	163.0	106.3	135.7	137.4	121.9	122.2	120.2
	May	117.0	110.6	210.2	143.7	117.9	126.4	134.4	121.9	122.2	120.4
	Jun	117.1	110.9	228.3	143.7	119.0	127.9	137.0	121.9	122.3	120.2
	Jul	117.2	110.9	226.2	143.7	117.9	130.3	137.6	122.0	122.4	120.3
	Aug	117.4	110.9	223.6	143.7	118.3	142.0	143.5	122.7	122.7	120.5
	Sep	117.5	111.1	232.2	138.0	118.2	141.0	143.4	123.1	122.9	120.9
	Oct	117.7	112.0	213.0	132.7	118.5	131.7	137.0	122.7	122.6	121.1
	Nov	117.8	112.1	221.7	135.8	117.1	127.9	135.4	122.8	122.9	121.4
	Dec	117.9	112.4	225.6	140.3	118.5	127.3	136.2	122.7	122.9	121.2
2004	Jan	118.0	112.5	204.7	154.3	118.5	134.6	138.9	122.8	123.0	121.1
	Feb	118.0	112.7	208.6	160.3	118.6	139.2	141.9	123.2	123.3	121.2
	Mar	118.1	112.8	203.3	160.5	118.5	142.9	143.3	123.7	123.7	121.6
	Apr	118.2	113.1	209.9	156.8	122.4	145.0	146.2	124.0	123.9	121.7

* *Energy includes Piped Gas, Fuel Oil/Other Fuel, Electricity, and Motor Gasoline*

Source: Statistics Canada

Produced by: BC Stats

April 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

Vancouver

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average	Shelter	Accommodation Rented	Accommodation Owned	Water, Fuel Electricity
2000	113.9	2.2	100.8	110.2	90.6	135.7
2001	116.0	1.8	103.3	111.5	91.4	153.0
2002	118.6	2.2	103.4	113.1	91.3	150.0
2003	121.0	2.0	105.0	114.4	92.6	154.6
2003		Month / Year				
Jan	119.7	0.2 / 2.9	104.1	113.9	91.8	150.7
Feb	120.3	0.5 / 3.2	104.2	114.0	92.0	150.8
Mar	121.2	0.7 / 3.2	104.6	114.1	92.4	151.5
Apr	121.0	-0.2 / 2.2	105.1	114.3	92.5	155.9
May	120.9	-0.1 / 1.6	105.2	114.3	92.7	155.7
Jun	120.8	-0.1 / 1.5	105.2	114.4	92.8	155.7
Jul	120.9	0.1 / 1.4	105.2	114.4	92.7	155.7
Aug	121.5	0.5 / 1.8	105.1	114.5	92.6	155.7
Sep	121.8	0.2 / 1.8	105.0	114.7	92.3	155.8
Oct	121.3	-0.4 / 1.4	105.5	114.8	93.0	155.7
Nov	121.4	0.1 / 1.4	105.5	114.8	92.9	155.7
Dec	121.6	0.2 / 1.8	105.7	115.0	93.2	155.8
2004						
Jan	121.3	-0.2 / 1.3	105.5	115.2	93.0	154.0
Feb	121.8	0.4 / 1.2	105.9	115.3	93.6	154.1
Mar	122.2	0.3 / 0.8	105.8	115.4	93.4	154.2
Apr	123.0	0.7 / 1.7	106.9	115.6	94.0	161.5

Victoria

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average	Shelter	Accommodation Rented	Accommodation Owned	Water, Fuel Electricity
2000	113.0	1.7	99.2	110.5	89.1	118.8
2001	114.3	1.2	98.9	111.4	89.8	110.3
2002	117.4	2.7	100.8	113.2	90.2	120.5
2003	120.0	2.2	102.9	114.3	92.3	124.6
2003		Month / Year				
Jan	118.7	0.3 / 3.3	101.9	114.0	91.2	123.2
Feb	119.2	0.4 / 3.3	102.1	114.0	91.3	123.8
Mar	120.1	0.8 / 3.4	102.5	114.1	91.4	128.4
Apr	119.9	-0.2 / 2.4	102.6	114.2	91.7	127.1
May	119.9	0.0 / 2.0	102.8	114.1	92.2	124.6
Jun	119.7	-0.2 / 1.8	102.8	114.1	92.1	124.6
Jul	120.1	0.3 / 1.7	103.0	114.2	92.4	124.9
Aug	120.5	0.3 / 1.9	103.2	114.3	92.6	124.9
Sep	120.8	0.2 / 2.0	102.8	114.4	92.1	124.6
Oct	120.4	-0.3 / 1.8	103.7	114.6	93.4	122.9
Nov	120.5	0.1 / 1.6	103.5	114.7	93.2	122.9
Dec	120.7	0.2 / 1.9	103.9	114.9	93.6	123.7
2004						
Jan	120.6	-0.1 / 1.6	104.0	114.9	93.5	125.5
Feb	121.0	0.3 / 1.5	104.2	114.9	93.7	126.0
Mar	121.3	0.2 / 1.0	104.2	115.0	93.4	127.8
Apr	122.2	0.7 / 1.9	105.6	115.2	94.5	133.2

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BRITISH COLUMBIA

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Ministry of Management Services

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June 22, 2004
Issue: 04-05

Consumer Price Index ◆ May 2004

Highlights

- BC's CPI rose 2.5% from May 2003, the greatest increase since March 2003. Among the provinces, Ontario recorded the highest increase at 2.8%, while Newfoundland & Labrador had the lowest increase at 1.7%. Nationally, prices rose 2.5% from May 2003.

- Of the metropolitan areas, Ottawa posted the highest increase from May 2003 at 3.0%, followed by Victoria and Toronto, both at 2.8%. Vancouver's CPI rose 2.6% during the same period, while Edmonton had the lowest increase at 1.4%

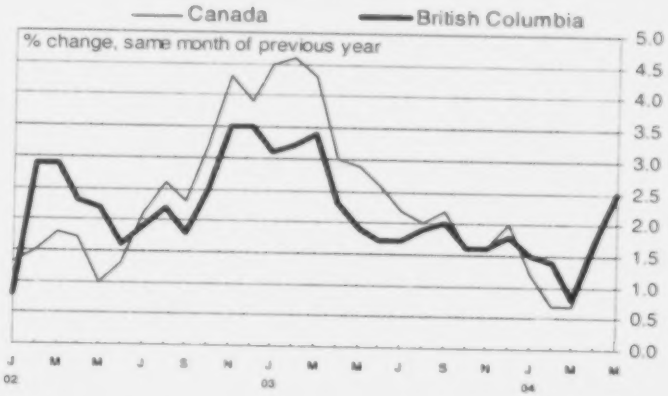
- Compared to a year ago, BC residents paid more for gasoline (+27.4%), tuition fees (+20.2%), fuel oil (+14.4%), and beer (+8.6%). Offsetting these increases were lower costs for fresh vegetables (-7.5%), natural gas (-6.3%), and fish & other seafood (-5.6%).

- BC's Energy Index (which includes natural gas, fuel oil, electricity and gasoline) rose 5.6% from **last month**, mostly attributable to a rise in gasoline prices (+10.4%), and fuel oil prices (+7.1%). Electricity and natural gas prices remained unchanged from April.

- BC's CPI, excluding food and energy, was 1.8% higher than May 2003. The comparable figure for Canada was 1.3%.

1992=100	Index	% Change from	
	May 2004	April 2004	May 2003
Canada	125.0	0.9	2.5
BC	123.4	0.8	2.5
Vancouver	124.0	0.8	2.6
Victoria	123.2	0.8	2.8
Core Canada[1]	124.2	0.2	1.6

Inflation Continues to Rise



1992=100	Latest 12-Month Average Index (ending in May 2004)	Latest 12-Month Average % Change	2003 Annual Average % Change
Canada	123.0	1.7	2.8
BC	121.2	1.7	2.1
Vancouver	121.8	1.6	2.0
Victoria	120.9	1.8	2.2

See attached "Consumer Price Index—Terms and Definitions"

Note: Statistics Canada will release the June Consumer Price Index on July 16, 2004.

[1]**The Core CPI for Canada:** Defined by the Bank of Canada as the All-items index excluding the eight most volatile components (fruit, vegetables, gasoline, fuel oil, natural gas, mortgage interest, intercity transportation and tobacco products). Also excluded is the effect of changes in indirect taxes on the remaining components.

Consumer Price Index—Terms and Definitions

Base Effect

The 12-month variation in the CPI is calculated by comparing the current month's index with the index for the same month of the previous year. The 12-month change is represented by the difference in the indexes of the reference months. Thus, the 12-month variation can decrease from one month to the next merely because the base serving as the point of comparison increased.

Source: Statistics Canada

Twelve-Month Percent Changes

Also referred to as "year-over-year", twelve-month percent changes compare indexes for a given month to indexes for the same month of the previous year. As they compare two points in time, they are influenced by unusual or temporary events that can affect either of the two months. Their calculation does not include any of the intervening monthly indexes.

Source: Statistics Canada

Annual Average Index

Annual average indexes are calculated by averaging index levels over the 12 months of the calendar year. These data should not be confused with the 12-month change in the CPI. By the nature of the calculation, averaging indexes over the calendar year gives a better representation of price behaviour over the whole year and is closer to the concept of an average price. The use of annual averages is considered the preferred option for indexation purposes.

Source: Statistics Canada

Latest Twelve-Month Average Index

The latest twelve-month average index (ending in the current month) is a 12-month moving average of the indexes of the most recent 12 months. It is calculated like the annual average index. Hence, in theory, the December twelve-month average index would be equal to the annual average index for the calendar year. However, in practice, when BC STATS makes these calculations from published data, the December 12-month average index may differ from Statistics Canada's published annual average index due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada and BC Stats

Changes to the Treatment of Rebates in the Consumer Price Index

Beginning with the Consumer Price Index for October 2003, Statistics Canada will change its treatment of rebate payments. The change will affect some types of rebate programs usually related to electricity or natural gas utilities.

Rebates will no longer be reflected in the CPI if they are paid on the basis of past consumption and were not known to consumers at the time of consumption.

To be reflected in the CPI, rebates or credits must relate to specific products and apply to all consumers (or a large proportion of consumers) of the product affected. CPI practice has been to reflect the impact of rebates at the time when rebates are paid. If a rebate was greater than the average monthly charge, the remainder of the rebate was reflected in following months until the rebate had been fully accounted for. Thus the CPI could reflect an average price close to zero for one month or several months in some situations. As a result, the treatment

of rebates has had a significant effect on the rate of change in the CPI, making the indexes for utilities particularly volatile.

The impact of the change will be to reduce short-term fluctuations in the CPI arising from rebates on past consumption. By treating retroactive rebates as windfalls to income rather than as price changes, the level of the CPI will be higher for the months that would have been affected under the past treatment of these rebates, with a corresponding impact on annual averages.

Rebate programs known to consumers at the time of purchase will continue to be accounted for in the CPI.

Source: Statistics Canada

More information about the concepts and use of the CPI is available online in the Statistics Canada publication *Your Guide to the Consumer Price Index* (www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/62-557-XIB/free.htm).

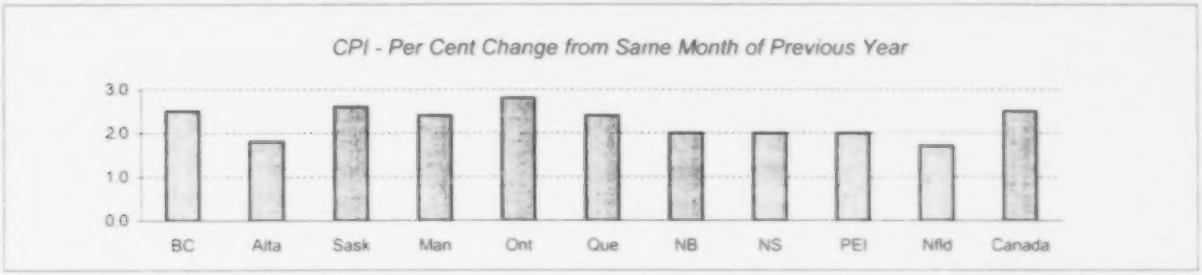
Prepared by: BC Stats, February 2004

May 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

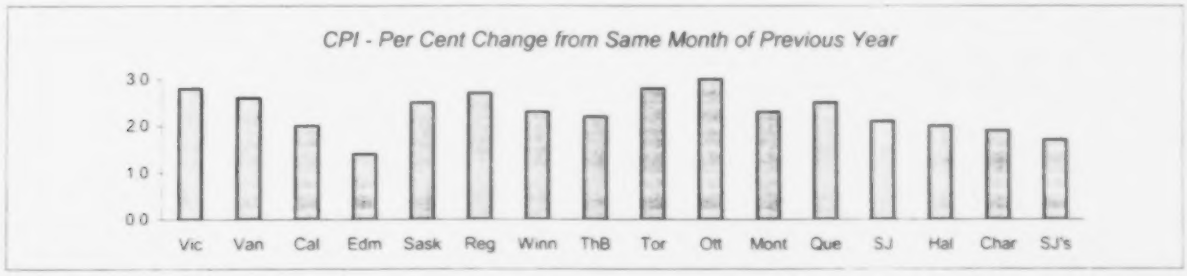
	British Columbia			Canada		
	Index May 2004	% Change April 2004	% Change May 2003	Index May 2004	% Change April 2004	% Change May 2003
All-Items Index (1992=100)	**123.4**	**0.8**	**2.5**	**125.0**	**0.9**	**2.5**
Food	**124.1**	**0.3**	**0.6**	**124.4**	**0.8**	**1.3**
Food Purchased From Stores	121.5	0.4	-0.2	123.3	1.1	0.8
Meat	132.1	2.5	0.8	132.5	1.6	0.9
Fish & Other Seafood	123.9	-0.5	-5.6	122.0	0.6	-1.5
Dairy Products & Eggs	127.0	-0.2	0.9	127.2	1.1	2.7
Bakery & Other Cereal Products	123.4	-0.4	0.9	129.7	0.0	2.8
Fruit, Fruit Preparations & Nuts	107.8	3.3	1.3	109.6	4.9	1.3
Fresh Fruit	103.2	3.8	0.0	112.2	6.7	1.9
Vegetables & Vegetable Preparations	100.5	0.4	-5.8	107.9	0.3	-6.0
Fresh Vegetables	96.7	-0.3	-7.5	108.6	-0.3	-7.8
Other Food Products	125.1	-1.3	0.2	121.8	0.2	1.2
Coffee & Tea	130.7	0.4	1.9	128.0	2.0	2.4
Non-Alcoholic Beverages	77.6	-3.7	-2.0	100.2	-0.5	0.2
Food Purchased From Restaurants	129.7	0.1	2.2	128.0	0.3	2.6
Shelter	**105.8**	**0.1**	**1.9**	**119.8**	**0.2**	**2.3**
Rented Accommodation	115.8	0.0	1.1	118.3	0.1	1.1
Owned Accommodation	93.0	0.1	1.9	113.3	0.2	2.4
Property taxes	148.0	0.0	4.4	126.6	0.0	2.8
Water, Fuel & Electricity	152.3	0.3	4.1	148.1	0.1	3.5
Electricity	114.0	0.0	6.7	122.4	0.0	3.8
Piped Gas	215.9	0.0	-6.3	209.1	-0.4	-0.5
Fuel Oil & Other Fuel	171.3	7.1	14.4	159.1	1.5	10.7
Household Operations & Furnishings	**123.8**	**-0.1**	**1.6**	**115.4**	**-0.2**	**0.8**
Household Operations	130.7	0.1	2.8	120.3	-0.2	1.5
Household Furnishings	114.3	-0.3	-0.5	108.1	-0.1	-0.3
Clothing & Footwear	**112.6**	**1.2**	**0.4**	**102.8**	**-1.0**	**-0.6**
Clothing	109.8	1.7	1.9	99.8	-1.6	-1.0
Women's Clothing	110.0	1.2	1.5	98.7	-3.3	-1.8
Men's Clothing	113.6	3.0	2.3	103.3	0.9	0.3
Children's Clothing	98.0	-0.6	2.4	94.1	-1.6	-2.0
Footwear	111.9	-1.4	-1.9	104.8	-0.1	-0.7
Transportation	**146.3**	**2.7**	**5.5**	**148.2**	**3.3**	**6.0**
Private Transportation	142.3	2.6	5.8	145.7	3.3	6.2
Operation of Motor Vehicles	153.4	4.3	11.2	162.7	5.9	13.9
Gasoline	180.9	10.4	27.4	164.7	13.6	30.3
Public Transportation	183.0	3.6	2.8	175.7	2.9	3.3
Local & Commuter	145.4	0.0	1.8	146.4	0.0	4.1
Inter-City	198.9	5.0	3.2	199.0	4.6	2.8
Health & Personal Care	**125.3**	**0.2**	**2.8**	**119.0**	**0.0**	**1.6**
Health Care	130.0	0.1	1.8	124.9	0.1	2.0
Personal Care	120.5	0.2	4.1	114.6	0.0	1.4
Recreation, Education & Reading	**132.5**	**1.6**	**3.0**	**128.4**	**1.0**	**0.9**
Recreation	119.7	2.2	-1.6	115.6	1.4	-0.5
Education & Reading	180.7	0.0	16.4	176.2	0.0	5.3
Education	189.9	0.0	20.2	194.6	0.0	6.3
Reading Material & Other Printed Matter	151.9	0.0	0.7	141.3	0.1	1.4
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco Products	**143.5**	**0.3**	**5.3**	**143.4**	**0.8**	**5.3**
Alcoholic Beverages	123.8	0.4	5.2	124.8	0.6	2.8
Alcoholic Beverages Purchased from Stores	120.9	-0.1	6.3	124.6	0.3	2.7
Beer Purchased from Stores	143.0	0.0	8.6	135.4	0.4	3.6
Liquor Purchased from Stores	102.3	0.1	1.1	109.6	0.2	1.7
Tobacco Products & Smokers' Supplies	161.3	0.1	5.3	143.2	1.1	7.3
Cigarettes	161.2	0.1	5.4	141.9	1.1	7.3
All-Items Excluding Food	123.3	1.0	2.9	125.1	0.9	2.6
All-Items Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	120.6	0.8	2.5	125.1	1.0	2.4
All-Items Excluding Food & Energy	119.9	0.5	1.8	122.0	0.2	1.3

May 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

Provinces	Monthly Index	% Change		Annual Index		% Change
	May 2004	April 2004	May 2003	2003	2002	2002/03
Canada	125.0	0.9	2.5	122.3	119.0	2.8
Newfoundland & Labrador	122.8	1.0	1.7	120.7	117.3	2.9
Prince Edward Island	124.3	0.3	2.0	121.9	117.7	3.6
Nova Scotia	126.0	0.7	2.0	123.9	119.8	3.4
New Brunswick	124.6	0.9	2.0	122.6	118.6	3.4
Quebec	121.1	1.0	2.4	118.4	115.5	2.5
Ontario	126.1	0.8	2.8	123.3	120.1	2.7
Manitoba	128.1	1.3	2.4	125.3	123.1	1.8
Saskatchewan	129.7	1.0	2.6	126.5	123.7	2.3
Alberta	131.7	0.8	1.8	129.7	124.2	4.4
British Columbia	**123.4**	**0.8**	**2.5**	**120.4**	**117.9**	**2.1**
Whitehorse	121.5	1.1	1.4	119.9	117.7	1.9
Yellowknife	119.1	0.6	0.2	118.4	116.3	1.8
Iqaluit (Dec. 2002=100)	101.4	0.6	1.3	100.2	n/a	n/a



Metropolitan Areas	Monthly Index	% Change		Annual Index		% Change
	May 2004	April 2004	May 2003	2003	2002	2002/03
St. John's	122.7	0.9	1.7	120.6	117.3	2.8
Charlottetown	123.3	0.3	1.9	120.9	117.1	3.2
Halifax	125.0	0.7	2.0	122.9	119.1	3.2
Saint John	124.2	0.9	2.1	122.2	118.2	3.4
Quebec City	121.9	1.1	2.5	119.1	116.2	2.5
Montreal	121.0	0.8	2.3	118.4	115.7	2.3
Ottawa	127.9	0.9	3.0	124.9	121.9	2.5
Toronto	126.8	0.9	2.8	124.2	120.6	3.0
Thunder Bay	124.3	0.8	2.2	122.1	119.3	2.3
Winnipeg	128.2	1.3	2.3	125.5	123.3	1.8
Regina	130.8	1.1	2.7	127.5	124.6	2.3
Saskatoon	128.8	1.0	2.5	125.8	123.1	2.2
Edmonton	129.8	0.9	1.4	128.4	121.9	5.3
Calgary	132.7	0.8	2.0	130.2	125.8	3.5
Vancouver	**124.0**	**0.8**	**2.6**	**121.0**	**118.6**	**2.0**
Victoria	**123.2**	**0.8**	**2.8**	**120.0**	**117.4**	**2.2**



May 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

British Columbia

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average	Food	Shelter	Household Operation	Clothing Footwear	Trans-portation	Health & Personal	Recreation Education	Alcohol Tobacco
2000	113.3	1.9	113.0	99.6	116.9	112.1	130.0	116.7	121.2	109.7
2001	115.2	1.7	117.4	101.2	118.0	112.6	130.5	119.7	122.6	112.3
2002	117.9	2.3	120.6	101.9	121.0	112.6	135.0	121.9	124.7	126.7
2003	120.4	2.1	122.8	103.7	122.3	111.4	139.3	122.8	129.0	136.0
2003		Month / Year								
Jan	119.0	0.2 / 3.1	122.1	102.7	121.3	110.3	138.0	122.8	125.1	132.2
Feb	119.6	0.5 / 3.2	121.1	102.9	122.3	112.0	140.3	122.7	126.0	134.0
Mar	120.6	0.8 / 3.4	122.3	103.2	122.1	113.8	143.2	121.8	126.9	135.2
Apr	120.4	-0.2 / 2.3	122.7	103.6	121.7	113.5	140.7	122.6	126.9	135.3
May	120.4	0.0 / 1.9	123.3	103.8	121.9	112.1	138.7	121.9	128.7	136.3
Jun	120.2	-0.2 / 1.7	123.3	103.8	122.0	110.4	138.2	121.7	128.4	136.4
Jul	120.5	0.2 / 1.7	123.3	103.8	122.3	111.4	138.6	122.2	129.5	136.4
Aug	120.9	0.3 / 1.9	123.3	103.9	122.4	109.4	141.0	123.5	129.6	136.8
Sep	121.2	0.2 / 2.0	122.4	103.7	123.1	113.0	139.9	123.9	133.6	137.0
Oct	120.6	-0.5 / 1.6	122.3	104.3	122.5	112.5	136.3	124.2	132.3	136.9
Nov	120.8	0.2 / 1.6	123.5	104.2	122.7	110.1	138.2	123.3	130.9	137.0
Dec	120.9	0.1 / 1.8	124.4	104.5	122.7	108.8	138.1	122.6	130.3	138.5
2004										
Jan	120.8	-0.1 / 1.5	124.1	104.4	122.6	109.2	138.4	122.8	128.7	140.9
Feb	121.3	0.4 / 1.4	123.2	104.7	123.3	112.3	138.9	123.4	130.0	142.9
Mar	121.6	0.2 / 0.8	123.5	104.6	123.6	112.9	140.2	123.7	130.5	142.9
Apr	122.4	0.7 / 1.7	123.7	105.7	123.9	111.3	142.4	125.1	130.4	143.1
May	123.4	0.8 / 2.5	124.1	105.8	123.8	112.6	146.3	125.3	132.5	143.5

Canada

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average	Food	Shelter	Household Operation	Clothing Footwear	Trans-portation	Health & Personal	Recreation Education	Alcohol Tobacco
2000	113.5	2.7	112.2	108.8	110.0	105.5	130.7	112.0	122.5	97.6
2001	116.4	2.6	117.2	112.8	112.2	106.0	130.8	114.2	124.3	105.1
2002	119.0	2.2	120.3	113.8	113.8	105.2	134.4	115.5	126.3	123.6
2003	122.3	2.8	122.4	117.5	114.6	103.3	141.4	117.0	127.3	136.0
2003		Month / Year								
Jan	121.4	0.8 / 4.5	122.3	116.2	113.9	101.6	141.9	116.1	125.4	132.0
Feb	122.3	0.7 / 4.6	122.1	116.7	114.5	103.8	144.1	116.4	127.1	133.5
Mar	122.8	0.4 / 4.3	122.4	117.4	114.5	105.5	144.6	116.1	126.7	133.8
Apr	121.9	-0.7 / 3.0	122.4	116.5	114.5	103.8	141.8	116.8	126.3	134.5
May	122.0	0.1 / 2.9	122.8	117.1	114.5	103.4	139.8	117.1	127.2	136.2
Jun	122.1	0.1 / 2.6	123.2	117.7	114.5	101.0	139.5	116.8	127.6	136.4
Jul	122.2	0.1 / 2.2	123.2	117.6	114.6	101.6	139.9	116.9	127.9	136.6
Aug	122.5	0.2 / 2.0	122.1	117.7	114.7	101.8	142.4	117.4	128.0	137.1
Sep	122.7	0.2 / 2.2	121.3	117.9	115.1	105.0	141.9	117.6	128.9	137.1
Oct	122.4	-0.2 / 1.6	121.1	118.2	115.1	105.0	139.7	117.7	128.3	137.0
Nov	122.7	0.2 / 1.6	122.3	118.3	114.9	104.2	140.9	118.0	127.5	137.6
Dec	122.8	0.1 / 2.0	123.4	118.8	114.9	102.5	140.8	117.6	126.5	140.1
2004										
Jan	122.9	0.1 / 1.2	123.7	118.7	114.9	102.3	142.2	117.7	125.3	140.8
Feb	123.2	0.2 / 0.7	123.4	119.0	115.2	104.0	141.9	117.7	126.6	141.1
Mar	123.6	0.3 / 0.7	123.6	119.0	115.3	105.3	142.8	118.3	127.3	141.3
Apr	123.9	0.2 / 1.6	123.4	119.6	115.6	103.8	143.5	119.0	127.1	142.2
May	125.0	0.9 / 2.5	124.4	119.8	115.4	102.8	148.2	119.0	128.4	143.4

May 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100) - Selected Items

BRITISH COLUMBIA		Rented Accom-modation	Owned Accom-modation	Energy for Dwellings			Motor Gasoline	Energy*	All Items Excluding Food	All Items Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	All Items Excluding Food & Energy
				Piped Gas	Fuel Oil/ Other Fuel	Electricity[1]					
	2000	110.7	89.0	167.4	137.6	105.7	134.3	130.8	113.4	111.5	111.9
	2001	111.9	89.7	222.9	141.0	91.9	134.3	134.3	114.7	113.3	113.0
	2002	113.5	89.7	198.6	131.6	106.3	135.7	135.9	117.3	115.5	115.7
	2003	114.7	91.3	223.7	151.0	106.9	148.4	144.9	119.9	117.8	117.8
2003	Jan	114.2	90.5	202.7	143.4	106.8	141.6	139.8	118.4	116.5	116.5
	Feb	114.3	90.6	202.7	150.5	106.8	154.0	146.1	119.3	117.0	117.0
	Mar	114.4	90.8	205.7	178.6	106.8	167.4	153.5	120.2	118.0	117.4
	Apr	114.5	91.0	230.3	165.0	106.8	153.1	147.9	119.9	117.8	117.5
	May	114.5	91.3	230.3	149.8	106.8	142.0	142.1	119.8	117.7	117.8
	Jun	114.6	91.3	230.3	149.8	106.8	142.2	142.2	119.6	117.6	117.6
	Jul	114.7	91.3	230.3	149.8	107.0	144.0	143.2	119.9	117.8	117.9
	Aug	114.7	91.3	230.3	149.8	107.0	160.0	151.0	120.4	118.2	117.8
	Sep	114.8	91.1	230.3	151.1	107.0	157.3	149.8	121.0	118.6	118.5
	Oct	114.9	91.9	230.3	140.2	107.0	140.0	141.0	120.3	118.0	118.5
	Nov	115.0	91.8	230.3	138.6	107.0	141.1	141.6	120.3	118.1	118.4
	Dec	115.2	92.1	230.3	145.4	107.0	138.5	140.4	120.2	118.2	118.4
2004	Jan	115.3	92.0	215.9	150.0	107.0	141.1	140.8	120.1	118.0	118.2
	Feb	115.4	92.3	215.9	153.1	107.0	150.2	145.3	120.9	118.4	118.8
	Mar	115.5	92.2	215.9	162.8	107.0	156.1	148.5	121.2	118.8	118.9
	Apr	115.8	92.9	215.9	160.0	114.0	163.8	155.3	122.1	119.6	119.3
	May	115.8	93.0	215.9	171.3	114.0	180.9	164.0	123.3	120.6	119.9

[1] *electricity figure for 2001 reflects BC Hydro rebates in February and March*

CANADA		Rented Accom-modation	Owned Accom-modation	Energy for Dwellings			Motor Gasoline	Energy*	All Items Excluding Food	All Items Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	All Items Excluding Food & Energy
				Piped Gas	Fuel Oil/ Other Fuel	Electricity					
	2000	111.5	102.9	158.9	143.2	109.2	131.7	128.1	113.9	115.0	112.2
	2001	113.3	105.9	206.0	143.5	111.1	128.3	132.3	116.3	117.7	114.4
	2002	115.5	107.6	168.7	131.8	119.6	127.2	129.6	118.8	119.6	117.5
	2003	117.2	110.9	219.5	151.5	117.2	135.4	139.9	122.4	122.5	120.5
2003	Jan	116.6	109.4	201.3	158.1	118.4	138.0	140.4	121.3	121.7	119.2
	Feb	116.7	109.7	203.5	176.9	118.4	147.7	146.5	122.4	122.6	119.9
	Mar	116.8	110.0	218.1	198.9	118.3	149.1	149.5	122.9	123.1	120.2
	Apr	116.9	110.3	230.3	163.0	106.3	135.7	137.4	121.9	122.2	120.2
	May	117.0	110.6	210.2	143.7	117.9	126.4	134.4	121.9	122.2	120.4
	Jun	117.1	110.9	228.3	143.7	119.0	127.9	137.0	121.9	122.3	120.2
	Jul	117.2	110.9	226.2	143.7	117.9	130.3	137.6	122.0	122.4	120.3
	Aug	117.4	110.9	223.6	143.7	118.3	142.0	143.5	122.7	122.7	120.5
	Sep	117.5	111.1	232.2	138.0	118.2	141.0	143.4	123.1	122.9	120.9
	Oct	117.7	112.0	213.0	132.7	118.5	131.7	137.0	122.7	122.6	121.1
	Nov	117.8	112.1	221.7	135.8	117.1	127.9	135.4	122.8	122.9	121.4
	Dec	117.9	112.4	225.6	140.3	118.5	127.3	136.2	122.7	122.9	121.2
2004	Jan	118.0	112.5	204.7	154.3	118.5	134.6	138.9	122.8	123.0	121.1
	Feb	118.0	112.7	208.6	160.3	118.6	139.2	141.9	123.2	123.3	121.2
	Mar	118.1	112.8	203.3	160.5	118.5	142.9	143.3	123.7	123.7	121.6
	Apr	118.2	113.1	209.9	156.8	122.4	145.0	146.2	124.0	123.9	121.7
	May	118.3	113.3	209.1	159.1	122.4	164.7	156.2	125.1	125.1	122.0

* *Energy includes Piped Gas, Fuel Oil/Other Fuel, Electricity, and Motor Gasoline*

Source: Statistics Canada

Produced by: BC Stats

May 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

Vancouver

		% Change		Accommodation		Water, Fuel
Year	All Items	Annual Average	Shelter	Rented	Owned	Electricity
2000	113.9	2.2	100.8	110.2	90.6	135.7
2001	116.0	1.8	103.3	111.5	91.4	153.0
2002	118.6	2.2	103.4	113.1	91.3	150.0
2003	121.0	2.0	105.0	114.4	92.6	154.6
2003		Month / Year				
Jan	119.7	0.2 / 2.9	104.1	113.9	91.8	150.7
Feb	120.3	0.5 / 3.2	104.2	114.0	92.0	150.8
Mar	121.2	0.7 / 3.2	104.6	114.1	92.4	151.5
Apr	121.0	-0.2 / 2.2	105.1	114.3	92.5	155.9
May	120.9	-0.1 / 1.6	105.2	114.3	92.7	155.7
Jun	120.8	-0.1 / 1.5	105.2	114.4	92.8	155.7
Jul	120.9	0.1 / 1.4	105.2	114.4	92.7	155.7
Aug	121.5	0.5 / 1.8	105.1	114.5	92.6	155.7
Sep	121.8	0.2 / 1.8	105.0	114.7	92.3	155.8
Oct	121.3	-0.4 / 1.4	105.5	114.8	93.0	155.7
Nov	121.4	0.1 / 1.4	105.5	114.8	92.9	155.7
Dec	121.6	0.2 / 1.8	105.7	115.0	93.2	155.8
2004						
Jan	121.3	-0.2 / 1.3	105.5	115.2	93.0	154.0
Feb	121.8	0.4 / 1.2	105.9	115.3	93.6	154.1
Mar	122.2	0.3 / 0.8	105.8	115.4	93.4	154.2
Apr	123.0	0.7 / 1.7	106.9	115.6	94.0	161.5
May	124.0	0.8 / 2.6	106.9	115.7	94.0	161.7

Victoria

		% Change		Accommodation		Water, Fuel
Year	All Items	Annual Average	Shelter	Rented	Owned	Electricity
2000	113.0	1.7	99.2	110.5	89.1	118.8
2001	114.3	1.2	98.9	111.4	89.8	110.3
2002	117.4	2.7	100.8	113.2	90.2	120.5
2003	120.0	2.2	102.9	114.3	92.3	124.6
2003		Month / Year				
Jan	118.7	0.3 / 3.3	101.9	114.0	91.2	123.2
Feb	119.2	0.4 / 3.3	102.1	114.0	91.3	123.8
Mar	120.1	0.8 / 3.4	102.5	114.1	91.4	128.4
Apr	119.9	-0.2 / 2.4	102.6	114.2	91.7	127.1
May	119.9	0.0 / 2.0	102.8	114.1	92.2	124.6
Jun	119.7	-0.2 / 1.6	102.8	114.1	92.1	124.6
Jul	120.1	0.3 / 1.7	103.0	114.2	92.4	124.9
Aug	120.5	0.3 / 1.9	103.2	114.3	92.6	124.9
Sep	120.8	0.2 / 2.0	102.8	114.4	92.1	124.6
Oct	120.4	-0.3 / 1.8	103.7	114.6	93.4	122.9
Nov	120.5	0.1 / 1.6	103.5	114.7	93.2	122.9
Dec	120.7	0.2 / 1.9	103.9	114.9	93.6	123.7
2004						
Jan	120.6	-0.1 / 1.6	104.0	114.9	93.5	125.5
Feb	121.0	0.3 / 1.5	104.2	114.9	93.7	126.0
Mar	121.3	0.2 / 1.0	104.2	115.0	93.4	127.8
Apr	122.2	0.7 / 1.9	105.6	115.2	94.5	133.2
May	123.2	0.8 / 2.8	105.9	115.3	94.7	135.0

BRITISH COLUMBIA

BC STATS

Ministry of Management Services

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Consumer Price Index ◆ June 2004

Highlights

- BC's CPI rose 2.8% from June 2003, the greatest increase since March 2003. Among the provinces, Saskatchewan and Manitoba recorded the highest increases at 2.9%, while Alberta and New Brunswick had the lowest increases at 2.2%. Nationally, prices rose 2.5% from June 2003.

- Of the metropolitan areas, Victoria posted the highest increase from June 2003 at 3.2%, followed by Regina and Winnipeg, both at 2.8%. Vancouver's CPI rose 2.7% during the same period, while Thunder Bay had the lowest increase at 1.7%

- Compared to a year ago, BC residents paid more for gasoline (+26.4%), tuition fees (+26.2%), fuel oil (+14.4%), and beer (+8.9%). Offsetting these increases were lower costs for fresh vegetables (-5.5%), natural gas (-6.3%), and fish & other seafood (-2.6%).

- BC's Energy Index (which includes natural gas, fuel oil, electricity and gasoline) declined slightly (-0.4%) from **last month**, mostly attributable to an easing in gasoline prices (-0.7%). Fuel oil, electricity and natural gas prices remained unchanged from May.

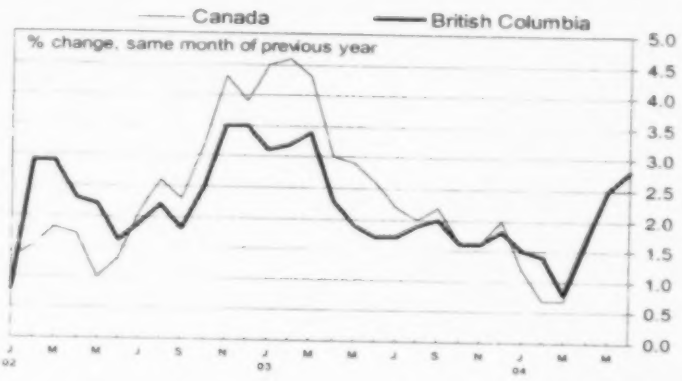
- BC's CPI, excluding food and energy, was 2.0% higher than June 2003. The comparable figure for Canada was 1.5%.

See attached "Consumer Price Index – Terms and Definitions"

Note: Statistics Canada will release the June Consumer Price Index on August 24, 2004.

1992=100	Index	% Change from	
	June 2004	May 2004	June 2003
Canada	125.1	0.1	2.5
BC	123.6	0.2	2.8
Vancouver	124.1	0.1	2.7
Victoria	123.5	0.2	3.2
Core Canada[1]	124.3	0.1	1.7

Inflation Continues to Rise



1992=100	Latest 12-Month Average Index (ending in May 2004)	Latest 12-Month Average % Change	2003 Annual Average % Change
Canada	123.3	1.7	2.8
BC	121.5	1.8	2.1
Vancouver	122.1	1.7	2.0
Victoria	121.2	1.9	2.2

[1]**The Core CPI for Canada:** Defined by the Bank of Canada as the All-items index excluding the eight most volatile components (fruit, vegetables, gasoline, fuel oil, natural gas, mortgage interest, intercity transportation and tobacco products). Also excluded is the effect of changes in indirect taxes on the remaining components.

Consumer Price Index—Terms and Definitions

Base Effect

The 12-month variation in the CPI is calculated by comparing the current month's index with the index for the same month of the previous year. The 12-month change is represented by the difference in the indexes of the reference months. Thus, the 12-month variation can decrease from one month to the next merely because the base serving as the point of comparison increased.

Source: Statistics Canada

Twelve-Month Percent Changes

Also referred to as "year-over-year", twelve-month percent changes compare indexes for a given month to indexes for the same month of the previous year. As they compare two points in time, they are influenced by unusual or temporary events that can affect either of the two months. Their calculation does not include any of the intervening monthly indexes.

Source: Statistics Canada

Annual Average Index

Annual average indexes are calculated by averaging index levels over the 12 months of the calendar year. These data should not be confused with the 12-month change in the CPI. By the nature of the calculation, averaging indexes over the calendar year gives a better representation of price behaviour over the whole year and is closer to the concept of an average price. The use of annual averages is considered the preferred option for indexation purposes.

Source: Statistics Canada

Latest Twelve-Month Average Index

The latest twelve-month average index (ending in the current month) is a 12-month moving average of the indexes of the most recent 12 months. It is calculated like the annual average index. Hence, in theory, the December twelve-month average index would be equal to the annual average index for the calendar year. However, in practice, when BC STATS makes these calculations from published data, the December 12-month average index may differ from Statistics Canada's published annual average index due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada and BC Stats

Changes to the Treatment of Rebates in the Consumer Price Index

Beginning with the Consumer Price Index for October 2003, Statistics Canada will change its treatment of rebate payments. The change will affect some types of rebate programs usually related to electricity or natural gas utilities.

Rebates will no longer be reflected in the CPI if they are paid on the basis of past consumption and were not known to consumers at the time of consumption.

To be reflected in the CPI, rebates or credits must relate to specific products and apply to all consumers (or a large proportion of consumers) of the product affected. CPI practice has been to reflect the impact of rebates at the time when rebates are paid. If a rebate was greater than the average monthly charge, the remainder of the rebate was reflected in following months until the rebate had been fully accounted for. Thus the CPI could reflect an average price close to zero for one month or several months in some situations. As a result, the treatment

of rebates has had a significant effect on the rate of change in the CPI, making the indexes for utilities particularly volatile.

The impact of the change will be to reduce short-term fluctuations in the CPI arising from rebates on past consumption. By treating retroactive rebates as windfalls to income rather than as price changes, the level of the CPI will be higher for the months that would have been affected under the past treatment of these rebates, with a corresponding impact on annual averages.

Rebate programs known to consumers at the time of purchase will continue to be accounted for in the CPI.

Source: Statistics Canada

More information about the concepts and use of the CPI is available online in the Statistics Canada publication *Your Guide to the Consumer Price Index* (www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/62-557-XIB/free.htm).

Prepared by: BC Stats, February 2004

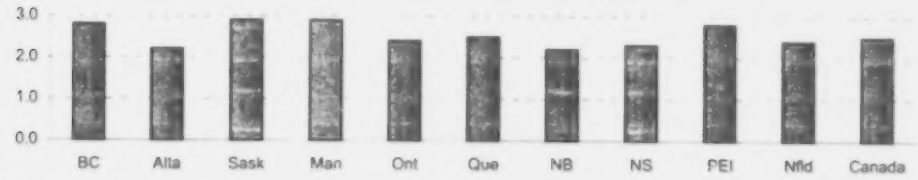
June 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

	British Columbia			Canada		
	Index June 2004	% Change May 2004	% Change June 2003	Index June 2004	% Change May 2004	% Change June 2003
All-Items Index (1992=100)	**123.6**	**0.2**	**2.8**	**125.1**	**0.1**	**2.5**
Food	**125.5**	**1.1**	**1.8**	**125.6**	**1.0**	**1.9**
Food Purchased From Stores	123.7	1.8	1.6	124.9	1.3	1.8
Meat	137.2	3.9	5.7	137.8	4.0	5.2
Fish & Other Seafood	125.5	1.3	-2.6	122.1	0.1	-1.4
Dairy Products & Eggs	127.5	0.4	1.6	127.5	0.2	2.6
Bakery & Other Cereal Products	122.8	-0.5	0.2	129.8	0.1	2.8
Fruit, Fruit Preparations & Nuts	109.3	1.4	3.8	111.8	2.0	3.3
Fresh Fruit	106.4	3.1	3.8	115.9	3.3	4.7
Vegetables & Vegetable Preparations	100.3	-0.2	-4.1	109.8	1.8	-5.4
Fresh Vegetables	96.1	-0.6	-5.5	110.5	1.7	-7.5
Other Food Products	129.6	3.6	1.8	122.2	0.3	0.6
Coffee & Tea	130.3	-0.3	1.4	128.0	0.0	2.9
Non-Alcoholic Beverages	83.8	8.0	2.3	100.0	-0.2	-1.6
Food Purchased From Restaurants	129.7	0.0	2.0	128.0	0.0	2.5
Shelter	**105.9**	**0.1**	**2.0**	**120.3**	**0.4**	**2.2**
Rented Accommodation	115.8	0.0	1.0	118.4	0.1	1.1
Owned Accommodation	93.1	0.1	2.0	113.5	0.2	2.3
Property taxes	148.0	0.0	4.4	126.6	0.0	2.8
Water, Fuel & Electricity	152.3	0.0	4.1	150.7	1.8	2.8
Electricity	114.0	0.0	6.7	122.4	0.0	2.9
Piped Gas	215.9	0.0	-6.3	225.9	8.0	-1.1
Fuel Oil & Other Fuel	171.3	0.0	14.4	159.1	0.0	10.7
Household Operations & Furnishings	**122.9**	**-0.7**	**0.7**	**115.0**	**-0.3**	**0.4**
Household Operations	130.5	-0.2	2.0	120.2	-0.1	1.0
Household Furnishings	112.0	-2.0	-1.6	107.0	-1.0	-0.6
Clothing & Footwear	**111.5**	**-1.0**	**1.0**	**101.9**	**-0.9**	**0.9**
Clothing	108.3	-1.4	2.1	99.0	-0.8	1.1
Women's Clothing	107.9	-1.9	0.9	98.0	-0.7	-1.1
Men's Clothing	112.2	-1.2	3.6	101.8	-1.5	4.2
Children's Clothing	98.7	0.7	2.0	94.8	0.7	1.3
Footwear	110.3	-1.4	-0.4	103.0	-1.7	0.6
Transportation	**146.3**	**0.0**	**5.9**	**147.1**	**-0.7**	**5.4**
Private Transportation	142.3	0.0	6.1	144.5	-0.8	5.6
Operation of Motor Vehicles	153.0	-0.3	10.8	160.3	-1.5	11.5
Gasoline	179.7	-0.7	26.4	159.2	-3.3	24.5
Public Transportation	183.0	0.0	3.3	176.0	0.2	3.6
Local & Commuter	145.4	0.0	1.8	146.4	0.0	3.4
Inter-City	198.8	-0.1	3.8	199.5	0.3	3.7
Health & Personal Care	**124.9**	**-0.3**	**2.6**	**119.1**	**0.1**	**2.0**
Health Care	129.7	-0.2	1.7	124.6	-0.2	1.9
Personal Care	120.1	-0.3	3.8	114.9	0.3	2.1
Recreation, Education & Reading	**133.4**	**0.7**	**3.9**	**128.5**	**0.1**	**0.7**
Recreation	120.8	0.9	-0.5	115.7	0.1	-0.9
Education & Reading	180.8	0.1	16.9	176.4	0.1	5.4
Education	189.9	0.0	20.4	194.6	0.0	6.4
Reading Material & Other Printed Matter	152.7	0.5	2.2	141.9	0.4	2.1
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco Products	**143.4**	**-0.1**	**5.1**	**144.0**	**0.4**	**5.6**
Alcoholic Beverages	123.6	-0.2	5.1	124.8	0.0	2.8
Alcoholic Beverages Purchased from Stores	120.5	-0.3	6.0	124.7	0.1	2.8
Beer Purchased from Stores	143.4	0.3	8.9	135.3	-0.1	3.5
Liquor Purchased from Stores	101.1	-1.2	0.8	109.8	0.2	2.0
Tobacco Products & Smokers' Supplies	161.5	0.1	5.3	144.2	0.7	7.7
Cigarettes	161.3	0.1	5.2	142.9	0.7	7.7
All-Items Excluding Food	123.2	-0.1	3.0	125.0	-0.1	2.5
All-Items Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	120.8	0.2	2.7	125.1	0.0	2.3
All-Items Excluding Food & Energy	119.9	0.0	2.0	122.0	0.0	1.5

June 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

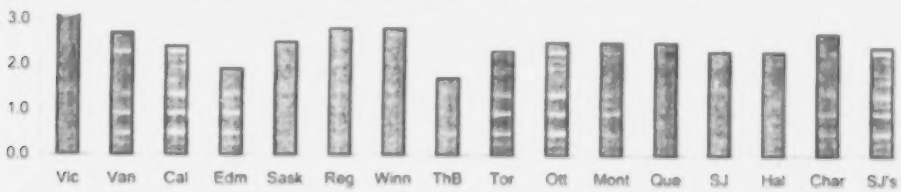
Provinces	Monthly Index	% Change		Annual Index		% Change
	June 2004	May 2004	June 2003	2003	2002	2002/03
Canada	125.1	0.1	2.5	122.3	119.0	2.8
Newfoundland & Labrador	123.2	0.3	2.4	120.7	117.3	2.9
Prince Edward Island	124.9	0.5	2.8	121.9	117.7	3.6
Nova Scotia	126.5	0.4	2.3	123.9	119.8	3.4
New Brunswick	124.8	0.2	2.2	122.6	118.6	3.4
Quebec	121.0	-0.1	2.5	118.4	115.5	2.5
Ontario	125.8	-0.2	2.4	123.3	120.1	2.7
Manitoba	128.5	0.3	2.9	125.3	123.1	1.8
Saskatchewan	129.9	0.2	2.9	126.5	123.7	2.3
Alberta	133.0	1.0	2.2	129.7	124.2	4.4
British Columbia	**123.6**	**0.2**	**2.8**	**120.4**	**117.9**	**2.1**
Whitehorse	121.8	0.2	1.6	119.9	117.7	1.9
Yellowknife	119.5	0.3	0.8	118.4	116.3	1.8
Iqaluit (Dec. 2002=100)	101.8	0.4	1.6	100.2	n/a	n/a

CPI - Per Cent Change from Same Month of Previous Year



Metropolitan Areas	Monthly Index	% Change		Annual Index		% Change
	June 2004	May 2004	June 2003	2003	2002	2002/03
St. John's	123.1	0.3	2.4	120.6	117.3	2.8
Charlottetown	123.8	0.4	2.7	120.9	117.1	3.2
Halifax	125.4	0.3	2.3	122.9	119.1	3.2
Saint John	124.4	0.2	2.3	122.2	118.2	3.4
Quebec City	121.8	-0.1	2.5	119.1	116.2	2.5
Montreal	121.0	0.0	2.5	118.4	115.7	2.3
Ottawa	127.5	-0.3	2.5	124.9	121.9	2.5
Toronto	126.5	-0.2	2.3	124.2	120.6	3.0
Thunder Bay	123.9	-0.3	1.7	122.1	119.3	2.3
Winnipeg	128.6	0.3	2.8	125.5	123.3	1.8
Regina	130.9	0.1	2.8	127.5	124.6	2.3
Saskatoon	128.8	0.0	2.5	125.8	123.1	2.2
Edmonton	131.2	1.1	1.9	128.4	121.9	5.3
Calgary	133.9	0.9	2.4	130.2	125.8	3.5
Vancouver	**124.1**	**0.1**	**2.7**	**121.0**	**118.6**	**2.0**
Victoria	**123.5**	**0.2**	**3.2**	**120.0**	**117.4**	**2.2**

CPI - Per Cent Change from Same Month of Previous Year



Source: Statistics Canada

Produced by: BC Stats

June 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

British Columbia

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average		Food	Shelter	Household Operation	Clothing Footwear	Trans-portation	Health & Personal	Recreation Education	Alcohol Tobacco
2000	113.3	1.9		113.0	99.6	116.9	112.1	130.0	116.7	121.2	109.7
2001	115.2	1.7		117.4	101.2	118.0	112.6	130.5	119.7	122.6	112.3
2002	117.9	2.3		120.6	101.9	121.0	112.6	135.0	121.9	124.7	126.7
2003	120.4	2.1		122.8	103.7	122.3	111.4	139.3	122.8	129.0	136.0
2003		Month	Year								
Jan	119.0	0.2	3.1	122.1	102.7	121.3	110.3	138.0	122.8	125.1	132.2
Feb	119.6	0.5	3.2	121.1	102.9	122.3	112.0	140.3	122.7	126.0	134.0
Mar	120.6	0.8	3.4	122.3	103.2	122.1	113.8	143.2	121.8	126.9	135.2
Apr	120.4	-0.2	2.3	122.7	103.6	121.7	113.5	140.7	122.6	126.9	135.3
May	120.4	0.0	1.9	123.3	103.8	121.9	112.1	138.7	121.9	128.7	136.3
Jun	120.2	-0.2	1.7	123.3	103.8	122.0	110.4	138.2	121.7	128.4	136.4
Jul	120.5	0.2	1.7	123.3	103.8	122.3	111.4	138.6	122.2	129.5	136.4
Aug	120.9	0.3	1.9	123.3	103.9	122.4	109.4	141.0	123.5	129.6	136.8
Sep	121.2	0.2	2.0	122.4	103.7	123.1	113.0	139.9	123.9	133.6	137.0
Oct	120.6	-0.5	1.6	122.3	104.3	122.5	112.5	136.3	124.2	132.3	136.9
Nov	120.8	0.2	1.6	123.5	104.2	122.7	110.1	138.2	123.3	130.9	137.0
Dec	120.9	0.1	1.8	124.4	104.5	122.7	108.8	138.1	122.6	130.3	138.5
2004											
Jan	120.8	-0.1	1.5	124.1	104.4	122.6	109.2	138.4	122.8	128.7	140.9
Feb	121.3	0.4	1.4	123.2	104.7	123.3	112.3	138.9	123.4	130.0	142.9
Mar	121.6	0.2	0.8	123.5	104.6	123.6	112.9	140.2	123.7	130.5	142.9
Apr	122.4	0.7	1.7	123.7	105.7	123.9	111.3	142.4	125.1	130.4	143.1
May	123.4	0.8	2.5	124.1	105.8	123.8	112.6	146.3	125.3	132.5	143.5
Jun	123.6	0.2	2.8	125.5	105.9	122.9	111.5	146.3	124.9	133.4	143.4

Canada

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average		Food	Shelter	Household Operation	Clothing Footwear	Trans-portation	Health & Personal	Recreation Education	Alcohol Tobacco
2000	113.5	2.7		112.2	108.8	110.0	105.5	130.7	112.0	122.5	97.6
2001	116.4	2.6		117.2	112.8	112.2	106.0	130.8	114.2	124.3	105.1
2002	119.0	2.2		120.3	113.8	113.8	105.2	134.4	115.5	126.3	123.6
2003	122.3	2.8		122.4	117.5	114.6	103.3	141.4	117.0	127.3	136.0
2003		Month	Year								
Jan	121.4	0.8	4.5	122.3	116.2	113.9	101.6	141.9	116.1	125.4	132.0
Feb	122.3	0.7	4.6	122.1	116.7	114.5	103.8	144.1	116.4	127.1	133.5
Mar	122.8	0.4	4.3	122.4	117.4	114.5	105.5	144.6	116.1	126.7	133.8
Apr	121.9	-0.7	3.0	122.4	116.5	114.5	103.8	141.8	116.8	126.3	134.5
May	122.0	0.1	2.9	122.8	117.1	114.5	103.4	139.8	117.1	127.2	136.2
Jun	122.1	0.1	2.6	123.2	117.7	114.5	101.0	139.5	116.8	127.6	136.4
Jul	122.2	0.1	2.2	123.2	117.6	114.6	101.6	139.9	116.9	127.9	136.6
Aug	122.5	0.2	2.0	122.1	117.7	114.7	101.8	142.4	117.4	128.0	137.1
Sep	122.7	0.2	2.2	121.3	117.9	115.1	105.0	141.9	117.6	128.9	137.1
Oct	122.4	-0.2	1.6	121.1	118.2	115.1	105.0	139.7	117.7	128.3	137.0
Nov	122.7	0.2	1.6	122.3	118.3	114.9	104.2	140.9	118.0	127.5	137.6
Dec	122.8	0.1	2.0	123.4	118.8	114.9	102.5	140.8	117.6	126.5	140.1
2004											
Jan	122.9	0.1	1.2	123.7	118.7	114.9	102.3	142.2	117.7	125.3	140.8
Feb	123.2	0.2	0.7	123.4	119.0	115.2	104.0	141.9	117.7	126.6	141.1
Mar	123.6	0.3	0.7	123.6	119.0	115.3	105.3	142.8	118.3	127.3	141.3
Apr	123.9	0.2	1.6	123.4	119.6	115.6	103.8	143.5	119.0	127.1	142.2
May	125.0	0.9	2.5	124.4	119.8	115.4	102.8	148.2	119.0	128.4	143.4
Jun	125.1	0.1	2.5	125.6	120.3	115.0	101.9	147.1	119.1	128.5	144.0

June 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

BRITISH COLUMBIA		Rented Accom-modation	Owned Accom-modation	Energy for Dwellings			Motor Gasoline	Energy*	All Items Excluding Food	All Items Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	All Items Excluding Food & Energy
				Piped Gas	Fuel Oil/ Other Fuel	Electricity[1]					
	2000	110.7	89.0	167.4	137.6	105.7	134.3	130.8	113.4	111.5	111.9
	2001	111.9	89.7	222.9	141.0	91.9	134.3	134.3	114.7	113.3	113.0
	2002	113.5	89.7	198.6	131.6	106.3	135.7	135.9	117.3	115.5	115.7
	2003	114.7	91.3	223.7	151.0	106.9	148.4	144.9	119.9	117.8	117.8
2003	Jan	114.2	90.5	202.7	143.4	106.8	141.6	139.8	118.4	116.5	116.5
	Feb	114.3	90.6	202.7	150.5	106.8	154.0	146.1	119.3	117.0	117.0
	Mar	114.4	90.8	205.7	178.6	106.8	167.4	153.5	120.2	118.0	117.4
	Apr	114.5	91.0	230.3	165.0	106.8	153.1	147.9	119.9	117.8	117.5
	May	114.5	91.3	230.3	149.8	106.8	142.0	142.1	119.8	117.7	117.8
	Jun	114.6	91.3	230.3	149.8	106.8	142.2	142.2	119.6	117.6	117.6
	Jul	114.7	91.3	230.3	149.8	107.0	144.0	143.2	119.9	117.8	117.9
	Aug	114.7	91.3	230.3	149.8	107.0	160.0	151.0	120.4	118.2	117.8
	Sep	114.8	91.1	230.3	151.1	107.0	157.3	149.8	121.0	118.6	118.5
	Oct	114.9	91.9	230.3	140.2	107.0	140.0	141.0	120.3	118.0	118.5
	Nov	115.0	91.8	230.3	138.6	107.0	141.1	141.6	120.3	118.1	118.4
	Dec	115.2	92.1	230.3	145.4	107.0	138.5	140.4	120.2	118.2	118.4
2004	Jan	115.3	92.0	215.9	150.0	107.0	141.1	140.8	120.1	118.0	118.2
	Feb	115.4	92.3	215.9	153.1	107.0	150.2	145.3	120.9	118.4	118.8
	Mar	115.5	92.2	215.9	162.8	107.0	156.1	148.5	121.2	118.8	118.9
	Apr	115.8	92.9	215.9	160.0	114.0	163.8	155.3	122.1	119.6	119.3
	May	115.8	93.0	215.9	171.3	114.0	180.9	164.0	123.3	120.6	119.9
	Jun	115.8	93.1	215.9	171.3	114.0	179.7	163.4	123.2	120.8	119.9

[1] *electricity figure for 2001 reflects BC Hydro rebates in February and March*

CANADA		Rented Accom-modation	Owned Accom-modation	Energy for Dwellings			Motor Gasoline	Energy*	All Items Excluding Food	All Items Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	All Items Excluding Food & Energy
				Piped Gas	Fuel Oil/ Other Fuel	Electricity					
	2000	111.5	102.9	158.9	143.2	109.2	131.7	128.1	113.9	115.0	112.2
	2001	113.3	105.9	206.0	143.5	111.1	128.3	132.3	116.3	117.7	114.4
	2002	115.5	107.6	168.7	131.8	119.6	127.2	129.6	118.8	119.6	117.5
	2003	117.2	110.9	219.5	151.5	117.2	135.4	139.9	122.4	122.5	120.5
2003	Jan	116.6	109.4	201.3	158.1	118.4	138.0	140.4	121.3	121.7	119.2
	Feb	116.7	109.7	203.5	176.9	118.4	147.7	146.5	122.4	122.6	119.9
	Mar	116.8	110.0	218.1	198.9	118.3	149.1	149.5	122.9	123.1	120.2
	Apr	116.9	110.3	230.3	163.0	106.3	135.7	137.4	121.9	122.2	120.2
	May	117.0	110.6	210.2	143.7	117.9	126.4	134.4	121.9	122.2	120.4
	Jun	117.1	110.9	228.3	143.7	119.0	127.9	137.0	121.9	122.3	120.2
	Jul	117.2	110.9	226.2	143.7	117.9	130.3	137.6	122.0	122.4	120.3
	Aug	117.4	110.9	223.6	143.7	118.3	142.0	143.5	122.7	122.7	120.5
	Sep	117.5	111.1	232.2	138.0	118.2	141.0	143.4	123.1	122.9	120.9
	Oct	117.7	112.0	213.0	132.7	118.5	131.7	137.0	122.7	122.6	121.1
	Nov	117.8	112.1	221.7	135.8	117.1	127.9	135.4	122.8	122.9	121.4
	Dec	117.9	112.4	225.6	140.3	118.5	127.3	136.2	122.7	122.9	121.2
2004	Jan	118.0	112.5	204.7	154.3	118.5	134.6	138.9	122.8	123.0	121.1
	Feb	118.0	112.7	208.6	160.3	118.6	139.2	141.9	123.2	123.3	121.2
	Mar	118.1	112.8	203.3	160.5	118.5	142.9	143.3	123.7	123.7	121.6
	Apr	118.2	113.1	209.9	156.8	122.4	145.0	146.2	124.0	123.9	121.7
	May	118.3	113.3	209.1	159.1	122.4	164.7	156.2	125.1	125.1	122.0
	Jun	118.4	113.5	225.9	159.1	122.4	159.2	154.8	125.0	125.1	122.0

* *Energy includes Piped Gas, Fuel Oil/Other Fuel, Electricity, and Motor Gasoline*

June 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

Vancouver

		% Change			Accommodation		Water, Fuel
Year	All Items	Annual Average		Shelter	Rented	Owned	Electricity
2000	113.9	2.2		100.8	110.2	90.6	135.7
2001	116.0	1.8		103.3	111.5	91.4	153.0
2002	118.6	2.2		103.4	113.1	91.3	150.0
2003	121.0	2.0		105.0	114.4	92.6	154.6
2003		Month	Year				
Jan	119.7	0.2	2.9	104.1	113.9	91.8	150.7
Feb	120.3	0.5	3.2	104.2	114.0	92.0	150.8
Mar	121.2	0.7	3.2	104.6	114.1	92.4	151.5
Apr	121.0	-0.2	2.2	105.1	114.3	92.5	155.9
May	120.9	-0.1	1.6	105.2	114.3	92.7	155.7
Jun	120.8	-0.1	1.5	105.2	114.4	92.8	155.7
Jul	120.9	0.1	1.4	105.2	114.4	92.7	155.7
Aug	121.5	0.5	1.8	105.1	114.5	92.6	155.7
Sep	121.8	0.2	1.8	105.0	114.7	92.3	155.8
Oct	121.3	-0.4	1.4	105.5	114.8	93.0	155.7
Nov	121.4	0.1	1.4	105.5	114.8	92.9	155.7
Dec	121.6	0.2	1.8	105.7	115.0	93.2	155.8
2004							
Jan	121.3	-0.2	1.3	105.5	115.2	93.0	154.0
Feb	121.8	0.4	1.2	105.9	115.3	93.6	154.1
Mar	122.2	0.3	0.8	105.8	115.4	93.4	154.2
Apr	123.0	0.7	1.7	106.9	115.6	94.0	161.5
May	124.0	0.8	2.6	106.9	115.7	94.0	161.7
Jun	124.1	0.1	2.7	107.0	115.7	94.1	161.7

Victoria

		% Change			Accommodation		Water, Fuel
Year	All Items	Annual Average		Shelter	Rented	Owned	Electricity
2000	113.0	1.7		99.2	110.5	89.1	118.8
2001	114.3	1.2		98.9	111.4	89.8	110.3
2002	117.4	2.7		100.8	113.2	90.2	120.5
2003	120.0	2.2		102.9	114.3	92.3	124.6
2003		Month	Year				
Jan	118.7	0.3	3.3	101.9	114.0	91.2	123.2
Feb	119.2	0.4	3.3	102.1	114.0	91.3	123.8
Mar	120.1	0.8	3.4	102.5	114.1	91.4	128.4
Apr	119.9	-0.2	2.4	102.6	114.2	91.7	127.1
May	119.9	0.0	2.0	102.8	114.1	92.2	124.6
Jun	119.7	-0.2	1.6	102.8	114.1	92.1	124.6
Jul	120.1	0.3	1.7	103.0	114.2	92.4	124.9
Aug	120.5	0.3	1.9	103.2	114.3	92.6	124.9
Sep	120.8	0.2	2.0	102.8	114.4	92.1	124.6
Oct	120.4	-0.3	1.8	103.7	114.6	93.4	122.9
Nov	120.5	0.1	1.6	103.5	114.7	93.2	122.9
Dec	120.7	0.2	1.9	103.9	114.9	93.6	123.7
2004							
Jan	120.6	-0.1	1.6	104.0	114.9	93.5	125.5
Feb	121.0	0.3	1.5	104.2	114.9	93.7	126.0
Mar	121.3	0.2	1.0	104.2	115.0	93.4	127.8
Apr	122.2	0.7	1.9	105.6	115.2	94.5	133.2
May	123.2	0.8	2.8	105.9	115.3	94.7	135.0
Jun	123.5	0.2	3.2	106.0	115.3	94.9	135.0

BRITISH COLUMBIA

BC STATS

Ministry of Management Services

Consumer Price Index ◆ July 2004

Highlights

- Compared to July 2003, BC's CPI rose 2.4%. Saskatchewan recorded the highest increase at 2.8%, while New Brunswick had the lowest increase at 1.8%. Nationally, prices rose 2.3% from July 2003.

- Of the metropolitan areas, Regina posted the highest increase from July 2003 at 2.9%, followed by Victoria with 2.7%. Vancouver's CPI rose 2.5% during the same period, while Edmonton had the lowest increase at 1.5%

- Compared to a year ago, BC residents paid more for education (+20.4%), gasoline (+17.6%), fuel oil (+14.4%), meat (+10.2%), beer (+8.9%), and electricity (+6.5%). Offsetting these increases were lower costs for fresh vegetables (-10.2%), non-alcoholic beverages (-8.0%), natural gas (-3.1%), and footwear (-2.2%).

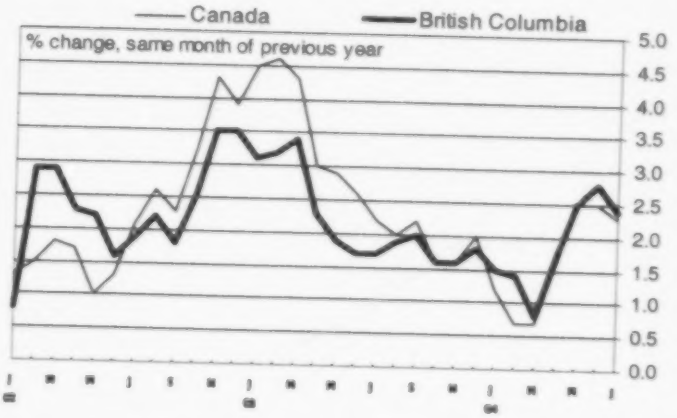
- BC's CPI, excluding food and energy, was 2.0% higher than July 2003. The comparable figure for Canada was 1.6%.

NOTE TO READERS: "Statistics Canada has determined that the weights assigned to mortgage interest cost were too high in the CPI basket update effective January 2003. The effect on the Canada All-items CPI has been very small, within the rounding factor of the index. Effective with the July 2004 release, the weight for mortgage interest cost has been reduced and, as a result, the weights of all other commodities have increased proportionately". See Statistics Canada's "Daily" of August 24, 2004 for more details (www.statcan.ca).

Note: Statistics Canada will release the August Consumer Price Index on Sept. 17, 2004.

1992=100	Index	% Change from	
	July 2004	June 2004	July 2003
Canada	125.0	-0.1	2.3
BC	123.4	-0.2	2.4
Vancouver	123.9	-0.2	2.5
Victoria	123.3	-0.2	2.7
Core Canada[1]	124.5	0.2	1.9

Inflation Drops



1992=100	Latest 12-Month Average Index (ending in July 2004)	Latest 12-Month Average % Change	2003 Annual Average % Change
Canada	123.5	1.7	2.8
BC	121.7	1.8	2.1
Vancouver	122.3	1.8	2.0
Victoria	121.5	2.0	2.2

[1]**The Core CPI for Canada:** Defined by the Bank of Canada as the All-items index excluding the eight most volatile components (fruit, vegetables, gasoline, fuel oil, natural gas, mortgage interest, intercity transportation and tobacco products). Also excluded is the effect of changes in indirect taxes on the remaining components.

Consumer Price Index—Terms and Definitions

Base Effect

The 12-month variation in the CPI is calculated by comparing the current month's index with the index for the same month of the previous year. The 12-month change is represented by the difference in the indexes of the reference months. Thus, the 12-month variation can decrease from one month to the next merely because the base serving as the point of comparison increased.

Source: Statistics Canada

Twelve-Month Percent Changes

Also referred to as "year-over-year", twelve-month percent changes compare indexes for a given month to indexes for the same month of the previous year. As they compare two points in time, they are influenced by unusual or temporary events that can affect either of the two months. Their calculation does not include any of the intervening monthly indexes.

Source: Statistics Canada

Annual Average Index

Annual average indexes are calculated by averaging index levels over the 12 months of the calendar year. These data should not be confused with the 12-month change in the CPI. By the nature of the calculation, averaging indexes over the calendar year gives a better representation of price behaviour over the whole year and is closer to the concept of an average price. The use of annual averages is considered the preferred option for indexation purposes.

Source: Statistics Canada

Latest Twelve-Month Average Index

The latest twelve-month average index (ending in the current month) is a 12-month moving average of the indexes of the most recent 12 months. It is calculated like the annual average index. Hence, in theory, the December twelve-month average index would be equal to the annual average index for the calendar year. However, in practice, when BC STATS makes these calculations from published data, the December 12-month average index may differ from Statistics Canada's published annual average index due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada and BC Stats

Changes to the Treatment of Rebates in the Consumer Price Index

Beginning with the Consumer Price Index for October 2003, Statistics Canada will change its treatment of rebate payments. The change will affect some types of rebate programs usually related to electricity or natural gas utilities.

Rebates will no longer be reflected in the CPI if they are paid on the basis of past consumption and were not known to consumers at the time of consumption.

To be reflected in the CPI, rebates or credits must relate to specific products and apply to all consumers (or a large proportion of consumers) of the product affected. CPI practice has been to reflect the impact of rebates at the time when rebates are paid. If a rebate was greater than the average monthly charge, the remainder of the rebate was reflected in following months until the rebate had been fully accounted for. Thus the CPI could reflect an average price close to zero for one month or several months in some situations. As a result, the treatment

of rebates has had a significant effect on the rate of change in the CPI, making the indexes for utilities particularly volatile.

The impact of the change will be to reduce short-term fluctuations in the CPI arising from rebates on past consumption. By treating retroactive rebates as windfalls to income rather than as price changes, the level of the CPI will be higher for the months that would have been affected under the past treatment of these rebates, with a corresponding impact on annual averages.

Rebate programs known to consumers at the time of purchase will continue to be accounted for in the CPI.

Source: Statistics Canada

More information about the concepts and use of the CPI is available online in the Statistics Canada publication *Your Guide to the Consumer Price Index* (www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/62-557-XIB/free.htm).

Prepared by: BC Stats, February 2004

July 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

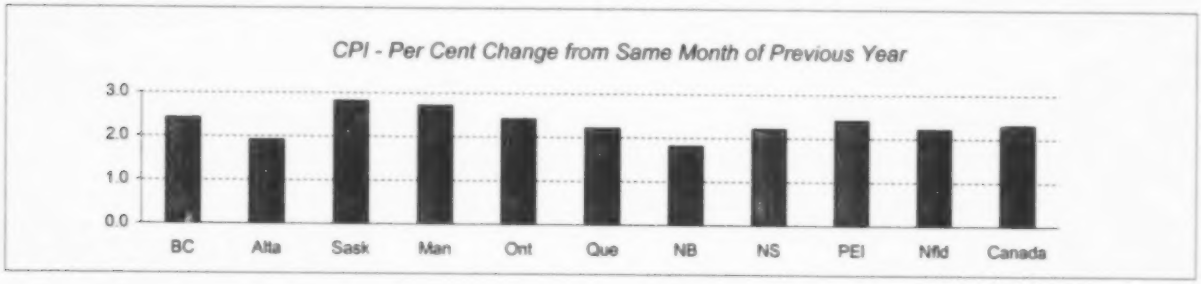
	British Columbia			Canada		
	Index	% Change		Index	% Change	
	July 2004	June 2004	July 2003	July 2004	June 2004	July 2003
All-Items Index (1992=100)	**123.4**	**-0.2**	**2.4**	**125.0**	**-0.1**	**2.3**
Food	**124.7**	**-0.6**	**1.1**	**125.6**	**0.0**	**1.9**
Food Purchased From Stores	122.4	-1.1	0.9	124.7	-0.2	1.7
Meat	137.9	0.5	10.2	138.6	0.6	6.9
Fish & Other Seafood	127.7	1.8	-1.2	123.3	1.0	-0.1
Dairy Products & Eggs	126.4	-0.9	-0.4	127.5	0.0	2.5
Bakery & Other Cereal Products	122.8	0.0	1.7	130.3	0.4	3.6
Fruit, Fruit Preparations & Nuts	109.2	-0.1	1.6	111.7	-0.1	1.0
Fresh Fruit	104.9	-1.4	0.7	115.2	-0.6	1.1
Vegetables & Vegetable Preparations	95.3	-5.0	-7.9	105.0	-4.4	-8.6
Fresh Vegetables	89.9	-6.5	-10.2	104.1	-5.8	-11.7
Other Food Products	127.1	-1.9	-0.9	122.4	0.2	0.7
Coffee & Tea	131.3	0.8	0.0	128.7	0.5	2.1
Non-Alcoholic Beverages	78.2	-6.7	-8.0	100.2	0.2	-0.9
Food Purchased From Restaurants	129.9	0.2	1.6	128.5	0.4	2.6
Shelter	**106.1**	**0.2**	**2.2**	**120.6**	**0.2**	**2.6**
Rented Accommodation	115.8	0.0	1.0	118.4	0.0	1.0
Owned Accommodation	93.2	0.1	2.1	113.9	0.4	2.7
Property taxes	148.0	0.0	4.4	126.6	0.0	2.8
Water, Fuel & Electricity	153.5	0.8	4.7	151.3	0.4	4.0
Electricity	114.0	0.0	6.5	123.3	0.7	4.6
Piped Gas	223.2	3.4	-3.1	225.5	-0.2	-0.3
Fuel Oil & Other Fuel	171.3	0.0	14.4	159.1	0.0	10.7
Household Operations & Furnishings	**123.1**	**0.2**	**0.7**	**114.9**	**-0.1**	**0.3**
Household Operations	130.6	0.1	1.9	120.2	0.0	0.9
Household Furnishings	112.4	0.4	-1.7	106.9	-0.1	-0.8
Clothing & Footwear	**112.2**	**0.6**	**0.7**	**100.9**	**-1.0**	**-0.7**
Clothing	110.3	1.8	2.4	98.0	-1.0	-1.1
Women's Clothing	112.6	4.4	2.3	97.2	-0.8	-1.5
Men's Clothing	111.5	-0.6	2.8	100.8	-1.0	-0.2
Children's Clothing	98.1	-0.6	1.8	92.9	-2.0	-2.9
Footwear	107.2	-2.8	-2.2	100.4	-2.5	-0.7
Transportation	**144.8**	**-1.0**	**4.5**	**146.2**	**-0.6**	**4.5**
Private Transportation	140.4	-1.3	4.9	143.4	-0.8	4.7
Operation of Motor Vehicles	149.3	-2.4	7.4	157.9	-1.5	8.7
Gasoline	169.4	-5.7	17.6	153.6	-3.5	17.9
Public Transportation	186.1	1.7	2.2	178.4	1.4	2.6
Local & Commuter	146.1	0.5	1.5	148.0	1.1	3.1
Inter-City	203.0	2.1	2.4	202.7	1.6	2.5
Health & Personal Care	**125.5**	**0.5**	**2.7**	**119.2**	**0.1**	**2.0**
Health Care	130.0	0.2	1.1	124.8	0.2	1.7
Personal Care	121.0	0.7	4.9	115.0	0.1	2.3
Recreation, Education & Reading	**133.5**	**0.1**	**3.1**	**128.9**	**0.3**	**0.8**
Recreation	120.9	0.1	-1.5	116.2	0.4	-0.7
Education & Reading	180.9	0.1	16.7	176.5	0.1	5.4
Education	189.9	0.0	20.4	194.6	0.0	6.4
Reading Material & Other Printed Matter	153.3	0.4	1.9	142.1	0.1	1.7
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco Products	**142.7**	**-0.5**	**4.6**	**144.2**	**0.1**	**5.6**
Alcoholic Beverages	123.7	0.1	5.0	125.0	0.2	2.9
Alcoholic Beverages Purchased from Stores	120.7	0.2	6.0	124.9	0.2	3.0
Beer Purchased from Stores	143.4	0.0	8.9	135.9	0.4	3.8
Liquor Purchased from Stores	101.1	0.0	0.1	109.7	-0.1	1.8
Tobacco Products & Smokers' Supplies	159.8	-1.1	4.2	144.3	0.1	7.6
Cigarettes	159.6	-1.1	4.2	143.0	0.1	7.5
All-Items Excluding Food	123.1	-0.1	2.7	124.9	-0.1	2.4
All-Items Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	120.6	-0.2	2.4	125.0	-0.1	2.1
All-Items Excluding Food & Energy	120.2	0.3	2.0	122.2	0.2	1.6

Source: Statistics Canada

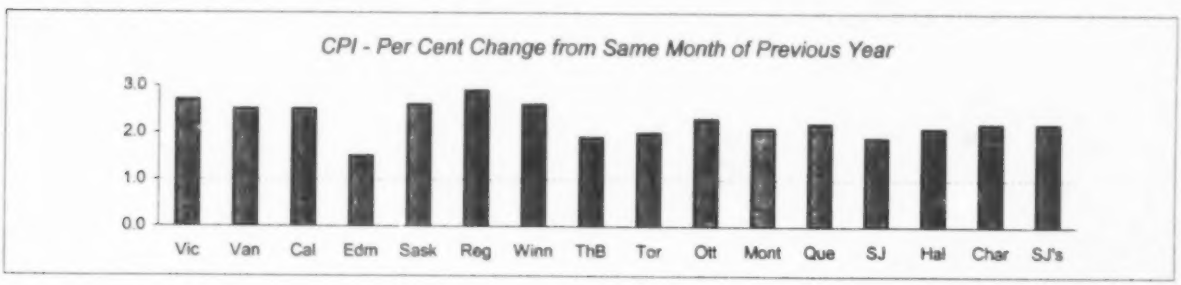
Produced by: BC Stats

July 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

Provinces	Monthly Index	% Change		Annual Index		% Change
	July 2004	June 2004	July 2003	2003	2002	2002/03
Canada	125.0	-0.1	2.3	122.3	119.0	2.8
Newfoundland & Labrador	123.9	0.6	2.2	120.7	117.3	2.9
Prince Edward Island	124.6	-0.2	2.4	121.9	117.7	3.6
Nova Scotia	126.7	0.2	2.2	123.9	119.8	3.4
New Brunswick	124.8	0.0	1.8	122.6	118.6	3.4
Quebec	120.9	-0.1	2.2	118.4	115.5	2.5
Ontario	126.0	0.2	2.4	123.3	120.1	2.7
Manitoba	128.3	-0.2	2.7	125.3	123.1	1.8
Saskatchewan	130.1	0.2	2.8	126.5	123.7	2.3
Alberta	132.1	-0.7	1.9	129.7	124.2	4.4
British Columbia	**123.4**	**-0.2**	**2.4**	**120.4**	**117.9**	**2.1**
Whitehorse	121.8	0.0	1.2	119.9	117.7	1.9
Yellowknife	119.5	0.0	1.0	118.4	116.3	1.8
Iqaluit (Dec. 2002=100)	101.8	0.0	1.1	100.2	n/a	n/a



Metropolitan Areas	Monthly Index	% Change		Annual Index		% Change
	July 2004	June 2004	July 2003	2003	2002	2002/03
St. John's	123.8	0.6	2.2	120.6	117.3	2.8
Charlottetown	123.6	-0.2	2.2	120.9	117.1	3.2
Halifax	125.6	0.2	2.1	122.9	119.1	3.2
Saint John	124.4	0.0	1.9	122.2	118.2	3.4
Quebec City	121.6	-0.2	2.2	119.1	116.2	2.5
Montreal	120.8	-0.2	2.1	118.4	115.7	2.3
Ottawa	127.7	0.2	2.3	124.9	121.9	2.5
Toronto	126.5	0.0	2.0	124.2	120.6	3.0
Thunder Bay	124.0	0.1	1.9	122.1	119.3	2.3
Winnipeg	128.4	-0.2	2.6	125.5	123.3	1.8
Regina	131.1	0.2	2.9	127.5	124.6	2.3
Saskatoon	129.0	0.2	2.6	125.8	123.1	2.2
Edmonton	130.4	-0.6	1.5	128.4	121.9	5.3
Calgary	133.1	-0.6	2.5	130.2	125.6	3.5
Vancouver	**123.9**	**-0.2**	**2.5**	**121.0**	**118.6**	**2.0**
Victoria	**123.3**	**-0.2**	**2.7**	**120.0**	**117.4**	**2.2**



Source: Statistics Canada

Produced by: BC Stats

July 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

British Columbia

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average		Food	Shelter	Household Operation	Clothing Footwear	Trans-portation	Health & Personal	Recreation Education	Alcohol Tobacco
2000	113.3	1.9		113.0	99.6	116.9	112.1	130.0	116.7	121.2	109.7
2001	115.2	1.7		117.4	101.2	118.0	112.6	130.5	119.7	122.6	112.3
2002	117.9	2.3		120.6	101.9	121.0	112.6	135.0	121.9	124.7	126.7
2003	120.4	2.1		122.8	103.7	122.3	111.4	139.3	122.8	129.0	136.0
2003		Month	Year								
Jan	119.0	0.2	3.1	122.1	102.7	121.3	110.3	138.0	122.8	125.1	132.2
Feb	119.6	0.5	3.2	121.1	102.9	122.3	112.0	140.3	122.7	126.0	134.0
Mar	120.6	0.8	3.4	122.3	103.2	122.1	113.8	143.2	121.8	126.9	135.2
Apr	120.4	-0.2	2.3	122.7	103.6	121.7	113.5	140.7	122.6	126.9	135.3
May	120.4	0.0	1.9	123.3	103.8	121.9	112.1	138.7	121.9	128.7	136.3
Jun	120.2	-0.2	1.7	123.3	103.8	122.0	110.4	138.2	121.7	128.4	136.4
Jul	120.5	0.2	1.7	123.3	103.8	122.3	111.4	138.6	122.2	129.5	136.4
Aug	120.9	0.3	1.9	123.3	103.9	122.4	109.4	141.0	123.5	129.6	136.8
Sep	121.2	0.2	2.0	122.4	103.7	123.1	113.0	139.9	123.9	133.6	137.0
Oct	120.6	-0.5	1.6	122.3	104.3	122.5	112.5	136.3	124.2	132.3	136.9
Nov	120.8	0.2	1.6	123.5	104.2	122.7	110.1	138.2	123.3	130.9	137.0
Dec	120.9	0.1	1.8	124.4	104.5	122.7	108.8	138.1	122.6	130.3	138.5
2004											
Jan	120.8	-0.1	1.5	124.1	104.4	122.6	109.2	138.4	122.8	128.7	140.9
Feb	121.3	0.4	1.4	123.2	104.7	123.3	112.3	138.9	123.4	130.0	142.9
Mar	121.6	0.2	0.8	123.5	104.6	123.6	112.9	140.2	123.7	130.5	142.9
Apr	122.4	0.7	1.7	123.7	105.7	123.9	111.3	142.4	125.1	130.4	143.1
May	123.4	0.8	2.5	124.1	105.8	123.8	112.6	146.3	125.3	132.5	143.5
Jun	123.6	0.2	2.8	125.5	105.9	122.9	111.5	146.3	124.9	133.4	143.4
Jul	123.4	-0.2	2.4	124.7	106.1	123.1	112.2	144.8	125.5	133.5	142.7

Canada

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average		Food	Shelter	Household Operation	Clothing Footwear	Trans-portation	Health & Personal	Recreation Education	Alcohol Tobacco
2000	113.5	2.7		112.2	108.8	110.0	105.5	130.7	112.0	122.5	97.6
2001	116.4	2.6		117.2	112.8	112.2	106.0	130.8	114.2	124.3	105.1
2002	119.0	2.2		120.3	113.8	113.8	105.2	134.4	115.5	126.3	123.6
2003	122.3	2.8		122.4	117.5	114.6	103.3	141.4	117.0	127.3	136.0
2003		Month	Year								
Jan	121.4	0.8	4.5	122.3	116.2	113.9	101.6	141.9	116.1	125.4	132.0
Feb	122.3	0.7	4.6	122.1	116.7	114.5	103.8	144.1	116.4	127.1	133.5
Mar	122.8	0.4	4.3	122.4	117.4	114.5	105.5	144.6	116.1	126.7	133.8
Apr	121.9	-0.7	3.0	122.4	116.5	114.5	103.8	141.8	116.8	126.3	134.5
May	122.0	0.1	2.9	122.8	117.1	114.5	103.4	139.8	117.1	127.2	136.2
Jun	122.1	0.1	2.6	123.2	117.7	114.5	101.0	139.5	116.8	127.6	136.4
Jul	122.2	0.1	2.2	123.2	117.6	114.6	101.6	139.9	116.9	127.9	136.6
Aug	122.5	0.2	2.0	122.1	117.7	114.7	101.8	142.4	117.4	128.0	137.1
Sep	122.7	0.2	2.2	121.3	117.9	115.1	105.0	141.9	117.6	128.9	137.1
Oct	122.4	-0.2	1.6	121.1	118.2	115.1	105.0	139.7	117.7	128.3	137.0
Nov	122.7	0.2	1.6	122.3	118.3	114.9	104.2	140.9	118.0	127.5	137.6
Dec	122.8	0.1	2.0	123.4	118.8	114.9	102.5	140.8	117.6	126.5	140.1
2004											
Jan	122.9	0.1	1.2	123.7	118.7	114.9	102.3	142.2	117.7	125.3	140.8
Feb	123.2	0.2	0.7	123.4	119.0	115.2	104.0	141.9	117.7	126.6	141.1
Mar	123.6	0.3	0.7	123.6	119.0	115.3	105.3	142.8	118.3	127.3	141.3
Apr	123.9	0.2	1.6	123.4	119.6	115.6	103.8	143.5	119.0	127.1	142.2
May	125.0	0.9	2.5	124.4	119.8	115.4	102.8	148.2	119.0	128.4	143.4
Jun	125.1	0.1	2.5	125.6	120.3	115.0	101.9	147.1	119.1	128.5	144.0
Jul	125.0	-0.1	2.3	125.6	120.6	114.9	100.9	146.2	119.2	128.9	144.2

July 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

BRITISH COLUMBIA		Rented Accom-modation	Owned Accom-modation	Energy for Dwellings			Motor Gasoline	Energy*	All Items Excluding Food	All Items Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	All Items Excluding Food & Energy
				Piped Gas	Fuel Oil/ Other Fuel	Electricity[1]					
	2000	110.7	89.0	167.4	137.6	105.7	134.3	130.8	113.4	111.5	111.9
	2001	111.9	89.7	222.9	141.0	91.9	134.3	134.3	114.7	113.3	113.0
	2002	113.5	89.7	198.6	131.6	106.3	135.7	135.9	117.3	115.5	115.7
	2003	114.7	91.3	223.7	151.0	106.9	148.4	144.9	119.9	117.8	117.8
2003	Jan	114.2	90.5	202.7	143.4	106.8	141.6	139.8	118.4	116.5	116.5
	Feb	114.3	90.6	202.7	150.5	106.8	154.0	146.1	119.3	117.0	117.0
	Mar	114.4	90.8	205.7	178.6	106.8	167.4	153.5	120.2	118.0	117.4
	Apr	114.5	91.0	230.3	165.0	106.8	153.1	147.9	119.9	117.8	117.5
	May	114.5	91.3	230.3	149.8	106.8	142.0	142.1	119.8	117.7	117.8
	Jun	114.6	91.3	230.3	149.8	106.8	142.2	142.2	119.6	117.6	117.6
	Jul	114.7	91.3	230.3	149.8	107.0	144.0	143.2	119.9	117.8	117.9
	Aug	114.7	91.3	230.3	149.8	107.0	160.0	151.0	120.4	118.2	117.8
	Sep	114.8	91.1	230.3	151.1	107.0	157.3	149.8	121.0	118.6	118.5
	Oct	114.9	91.9	230.3	140.2	107.0	140.0	141.0	120.3	118.0	118.5
	Nov	115.0	91.8	230.3	138.6	107.0	141.1	141.6	120.3	118.1	118.4
	Dec	115.2	92.1	230.3	145.4	107.0	138.5	140.4	120.2	118.2	118.4
2004	Jan	115.3	92.0	215.9	150.0	107.0	141.1	140.8	120.1	118.0	118.2
	Feb	115.4	92.3	215.9	153.1	107.0	150.2	145.3	120.9	118.4	118.8
	Mar	115.5	92.2	215.9	162.8	107.0	156.1	148.5	121.2	118.8	118.9
	Apr	115.8	92.9	215.9	160.0	114.0	163.8	155.3	122.1	119.6	119.3
	May	115.8	93.0	215.9	171.3	114.0	180.9	164.0	123.3	120.6	119.9
	Jun	115.3	93.1	215.9	171.3	114.0	179.7	163.4	123.2	120.8	119.9
	Jul	115.8	93.2	223.2	171.3	114.0	169.4	158.9	123.1	120.6	120.2

[1] *electricity figure for 2001 reflects BC Hydro rebates in February and March*

CANADA		Rented Accom-modation	Owned Accom-modation	Energy for Dwellings			Motor Gasoline	Energy*	All Items Excluding Food	All Items Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	All Items Excluding Food & Energy
				Piped Gas	Fuel Oil/ Other Fuel	Electricity					
	2000	111.5	102.9	158.9	143.2	109.2	131.7	128.1	113.9	115.0	112.2
	2001	113.3	105.9	206.0	143.5	111.1	128.3	132.3	116.3	117.7	114.4
	2002	115.5	107.6	168.7	131.8	119.6	127.2	129.6	118.8	119.6	117.5
	2003	117.2	110.9	219.5	151.5	117.2	135.4	139.9	122.4	122.5	120.5
2003	Jan	116.6	109.4	201.3	158.1	118.4	138.0	140.4	121.3	121.7	119.2
	Feb	116.7	109.7	203.5	176.9	118.4	147.7	146.5	122.4	122.6	119.9
	Mar	116.8	110.0	218.1	198.9	118.3	149.1	149.5	122.9	123.1	120.2
	Apr	116.9	110.3	230.3	163.0	106.3	135.7	137.4	121.9	122.2	120.2
	May	117.0	110.6	210.2	143.7	117.9	126.4	134.4	121.9	122.2	120.4
	Jun	117.1	110.9	228.3	143.7	119.0	127.9	137.0	121.9	122.3	120.2
	Jul	117.2	110.9	226.2	143.7	117.9	130.3	137.6	122.0	122.4	120.3
	Aug	117.4	110.9	223.6	143.7	118.3	142.0	143.5	122.7	122.7	120.5
	Sep	117.5	111.1	232.2	138.0	118.2	141.0	143.4	123.1	122.9	120.9
	Oct	117.7	112.0	213.0	132.7	118.5	131.7	137.0	122.7	122.6	121.1
	Nov	117.8	112.1	221.7	135.8	117.1	127.9	135.4	122.8	122.9	121.4
	Dec	117.9	112.4	225.6	140.3	118.5	127.3	136.2	122.7	122.9	121.2
2004	Jan	118.0	112.5	204.7	154.3	118.5	134.6	138.9	122.8	123.0	121.1
	Feb	118.0	112.7	208.6	160.3	118.6	139.2	141.9	123.2	123.3	121.2
	Mar	118.1	112.8	203.3	160.5	118.5	142.9	143.3	123.7	123.7	121.6
	Apr	118.2	113.1	209.9	156.8	122.4	145.0	146.2	124.0	123.9	121.7
	May	118.3	113.3	209.1	159.1	122.4	164.7	156.2	125.1	125.1	122.0
	Jun	118.4	113.5	225.9	159.1	122.4	159.2	154.8	125.0	125.1	122.0
	Jul	118.4	113.9	225.5	159.1	123.3	153.6	152.3	124.9	125.0	122.2

* *Energy includes Piped Gas, Fuel Oil/Other Fuel, Electricity, and Motor Gasoline*

Source: Statistics Canada

Produced by: BC Stats

July 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

Vancouver

		% Change		Accommodation		Water, Fuel
Year	All Items	Annual Average	Shelter	Rented	Owned	Electricity
2000	113.9	2.2	100.8	110.2	90.6	135.7
2001	116.0	1.8	103.3	111.5	91.4	153.0
2002	118.6	2.2	103.4	113.1	91.3	150.0
2003	121.0	2.0	105.0	114.4	92.6	154.6
2003		Month / Year				
Jan	119.7	0.2 / 2.9	104.1	113.9	91.8	150.7
Feb	120.3	0.5 / 3.2	104.2	114.0	92.0	150.8
Mar	121.2	0.7 / 3.2	104.6	114.1	92.4	151.5
Apr	121.0	-0.2 / 2.2	105.1	114.3	92.5	155.9
May	120.9	-0.1 / 1.6	105.2	114.3	92.7	155.7
Jun	120.8	-0.1 / 1.5	105.2	114.4	92.8	155.7
Jul	120.9	0.1 / 1.4	105.2	114.4	92.7	155.7
Aug	121.5	0.5 / 1.8	105.1	114.5	92.6	155.7
Sep	121.8	0.2 / 1.8	105.0	114.7	92.3	155.8
Oct	121.3	-0.4 / 1.4	105.5	114.8	93.0	155.7
Nov	121.4	0.1 / 1.4	105.5	114.8	92.9	155.7
Dec	121.6	0.2 / 1.8	105.7	115.0	93.2	155.8
2004						
Jan	121.3	-0.2 / 1.3	105.5	115.2	93.0	154.0
Feb	121.8	0.4 / 1.2	105.9	115.3	93.6	154.1
Mar	122.2	0.3 / 0.8	105.8	115.4	93.4	154.2
Apr	123.0	0.7 / 1.7	106.9	115.6	94.0	161.5
May	124.0	0.8 / 2.6	106.9	115.7	94.0	161.7
Jun	124.1	0.1 / 2.7	107.0	115.7	94.1	161.7
Jul	123.9	-0.2 / 2.5	107.1	115.7	94.2	163.1

Victoria

		% Change		Accommodation		Water, Fuel
Year	All Items	Annual Average	Shelter	Rented	Owned	Electricity
2000	113.0	1.7	99.2	110.5	89.1	118.8
2001	114.3	1.2	98.9	111.4	89.8	110.3
2002	117.4	2.7	100.8	113.2	90.2	120.5
2003	120.0	2.2	102.9	114.3	92.3	124.6
2003		Month / Year				
Jan	118.7	0.3 / 3.3	101.9	114.0	91.2	123.2
Feb	119.2	0.4 / 3.3	102.1	114.0	91.3	123.8
Mar	120.1	0.8 / 3.4	102.5	114.1	91.4	128.4
Apr	119.9	-0.2 / 2.4	102.6	114.2	91.7	127.1
May	119.9	0.0 / 2.0	102.8	114.1	92.2	124.6
Jun	119.7	-0.2 / 1.6	102.8	114.1	92.1	124.6
Jul	120.1	0.3 / 1.7	103.0	114.2	92.4	124.9
Aug	120.5	0.3 / 1.9	103.2	114.3	92.6	124.9
Sep	120.8	0.2 / 2.0	102.8	114.4	92.1	124.6
Oct	120.4	-0.3 / 1.8	103.7	114.6	93.4	122.9
Nov	120.5	0.1 / 1.6	103.5	114.7	93.2	122.9
Dec	120.7	0.2 / 1.9	103.9	114.9	93.6	123.7
2004						
Jan	120.6	-0.1 / 1.6	104.0	114.9	93.5	125.5
Feb	121.0	0.3 / 1.5	104.2	114.9	93.7	126.0
Mar	121.3	0.2 / 1.0	104.2	115.0	93.4	127.8
Apr	122.2	0.7 / 1.9	105.6	115.2	94.5	133.2
May	123.2	0.8 / 2.8	105.9	115.3	94.7	135.0
Jun	123.5	0.2 / 3.2	106.0	115.3	94.9	135.0
Jul	123.3	-0.2 / 2.7	106.2	115.3	95.1	135.2

BRITISH COLUMBIA

BC STATS

Ministry of Management Services

Data Services
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September 17, 2004
Issue: 04-08

Consumer Price Index ◆ August 2004

Highlights

- BC's Consumer Price Index rose 2.0% from August of 2003. Manitoba and Prince Edward Island shared the greatest increase with a 2.6% rise in prices compared to a year ago. The lowest year-over-year inflation rate was seen in Ontario with a 1.5% increase. Nationally, prices rose 1.9% over the same period.

- Of the metropolitan areas, Winnipeg and Charlottetown posted the highest increases in the CPI from August 2003 at 2.5%, while residents of Thunder Bay enjoyed the lowest increase at 1.0%. Over the same period, Victoria's CPI rose 2.3%, while Vancouver's rose 2.1%.

- Compared to a year ago, BC residents paid more for education (+20.4%), fuel oil (+14.4%), meat (+11.0%), gasoline (+6.8%), electricity (+6.5%), and women's clothing (+6.4%). Offsetting these increases were lower costs for non-alcoholic beverages (-7.7%), fresh vegetables (-7.3%), children's clothing (-3.2%), and natural gas (-3.1%).

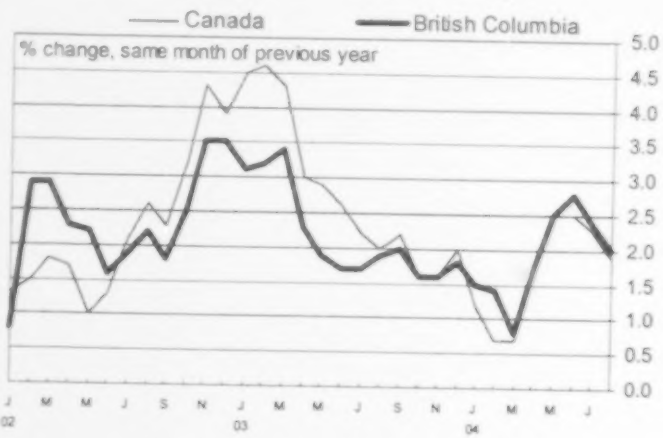
- BC's Energy Index (which includes natural gas, fuel oil, electricity and gasoline) rose 0.4% **from last month,** entirely due to a 0.9% increase in gasoline prices. Gas, oil and electricity prices remained unchanged from July 2004.

- BC's CPI, excluding food and energy, was 2.0% higher than in August 2003. The comparable figure for Canada was 1.2%.

Note: Statistics Canada will release the September Consumer Price Index on October 26, 2004.

1992=100	Index	% Change from	
	August 2004	July 2004	August 2003
Canada	124.8	-0.2	1.9
BC	123.3	-0.1	2.0
Vancouver	124.0	0.1	2.1
Victoria	123.3	0.0	2.3
Core Canada[1]	124.3	-0.2	1.6

Inflation Trend Descending



1992=100	Latest 12-Month Average Index (ending in Aug. 2004)	Latest 12-Month Average % Change	2003 Annual Average % Change
Canada	123.7	1.7	2.8
BC	121.9	1.8	2.1
Vancouver	122.5	1.8	2.0
Victoria	121.7	2.0	2.2

[1]**The Core CPI for Canada:** Defined by the Bank of Canada as the All-items index excluding the eight most volatile components (fruit, vegetables, gasoline, fuel oil, natural gas, mortgage interest, inter-city transportation and tobacco products). Also excluded is the effect of changes in indirect taxes on the remaining components.

Consumer Price Index—Terms and Definitions

Base Effect

The 12-month variation in the CPI is calculated by comparing the current month's index with the index for the same month of the previous year. The 12-month change is represented by the difference in the indexes of the reference months. Thus, the 12-month variation can decrease from one month to the next merely because the base serving as the point of comparison increased.

Source: Statistics Canada

Twelve-Month Percent Changes

Also referred to as "year-over-year", twelve-month percent changes compare indexes for a given month to indexes for the same month of the previous year. As they compare two points in time, they are influenced by unusual or temporary events that can affect either of the two months. Their calculation does not include any of the intervening monthly indexes.

Source: Statistics Canada

Annual Average Index

Annual average indexes are calculated by averaging index levels over the 12 months of the calendar year. These data should not be confused with the 12-month change in the CPI. By the nature of the calculation, averaging indexes over the calendar year gives a better representation of price behaviour over the whole year and is closer to the concept of an average price. The use of annual averages is considered the preferred option for indexation purposes.

Source: Statistics Canada

Latest Twelve-Month Average Index

The latest twelve-month average index (ending in the current month) is a 12-month moving average of the indexes of the most recent 12 months. It is calculated like the annual average index. Hence, in theory, the December twelve-month average index would be equal to the annual average index for the calendar year. However, in practice, when BC STATS makes these calculations from published data, the December 12-month average index may differ from Statistics Canada's published annual average index due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada and BC Stats

Changes to the Treatment of Rebates in the Consumer Price Index

Beginning with the Consumer Price Index for October 2003, Statistics Canada will change its treatment of rebate payments. The change will affect some types of rebate programs usually related to electricity or natural gas utilities.

Rebates will no longer be reflected in the CPI if they are paid on the basis of past consumption and were not known to consumers at the time of consumption.

To be reflected in the CPI, rebates or credits must relate to specific products and apply to all consumers (or a large proportion of consumers) of the product affected. CPI practice has been to reflect the impact of rebates at the time when rebates are paid. If a rebate was greater than the average monthly charge, the remainder of the rebate was reflected in following months until the rebate had been fully accounted for. Thus the CPI could reflect an average price close to zero for one month or several months in some situations. As a result, the treatment

of rebates has had a significant effect on the rate of change in the CPI, making the indexes for utilities particularly volatile.

The impact of the change will be to reduce short-term fluctuations in the CPI arising from rebates on past consumption. By treating retroactive rebates as windfalls to income rather than as price changes, the level of the CPI will be higher for the months that would have been affected under the past treatment of these rebates, with a corresponding impact on annual averages.

Rebate programs known to consumers at the time of purchase will continue to be accounted for in the CPI.

Source: Statistics Canada

More information about the concepts and use of the CPI is available online in the Statistics Canada publication *Your Guide to the Consumer Price Index* (www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/62-557-XIB/free.htm).

Prepared by: BC Stats, February 2004

August 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

	British Columbia			Canada		
	Index August 2004	% Change July 2004	% Change August 2003	Index August 2004	% Change July 2004	% Change August 2003
All-Items Index (1992=100)	**123.3**	**-0.1**	**2.0**	**124.8**	**-0.2**	**1.9**
Food	**124.3**	**-0.3**	**0.8**	**125.3**	**-0.2**	**2.6**
Food Purchased From Stores	121.8	-0.5	0.6	124.1	-0.5	2.6
Meat	136.9	-0.7	11.0	139.7	0.8	10.5
Fish & Other Seafood	126.6	-0.7	-1.8	122.9	-0.3	-0.4
Dairy Products & Eggs	126.3	-0.1	-1.1	127.6	0.1	2.2
Bakery & Other Cereal Products	123.4	0.5	0.9	130.0	-0.2	2.8
Fruit, Fruit Preparations & Nuts	108.6	-0.5	-1.8	111.9	0.2	1.5
Fresh Fruit	105.2	0.3	-0.5	115.7	0.4	2.4
Vegetables & Vegetable Preparations	93.5	-1.9	-5.5	98.5	-6.2	-5.7
Fresh Vegetables	87.2	-3.0	-7.3	95.3	-8.5	-8.0
Other Food Products	126.3	-0.6	-1.4	122.2	-0.2	0.2
Coffee & Tea	130.5	-0.6	-0.7	128.5	-0.2	1.8
Non-Alcoholic Beverages	76.3	-2.4	-7.7	99.2	-1.0	-1.8
Food Purchased From Restaurants	129.8	-0.1	1.2	128.8	0.2	2.7
Shelter	**106.2**	**0.1**	**2.2**	**120.9**	**0.2**	**2.7**
Rented Accommodation	115.9	0.1	1.0	118.7	0.3	1.1
Owned Accommodation	93.4	0.2	2.3	114.1	0.2	2.9
Property taxes	148.0	0.0	4.4	126.6	0.0	2.8
Water, Fuel & Electricity	153.5	0.0	4.7	151.9	0.4	4.5
Electricity	114.0	0.0	6.5	123.4	0.1	4.3
Piped Gas	223.2	0.0	-3.1	228.9	1.5	2.4
Fuel Oil & Other Fuel	171.3	0.0	14.4	159.1	0.0	10.7
Household Operations & Furnishings	**123.1**	**0.0**	**0.6**	**115.0**	**0.1**	**0.3**
Household Operations	130.5	-0.1	1.4	120.3	0.1	0.9
Household Furnishings	112.6	0.2	-1.1	107.0	0.1	-0.7
Clothing & Footwear	**111.6**	**-0.5**	**2.0**	**101.8**	**0.9**	**0.0**
Clothing	108.7	-1.5	3.3	99.0	1.0	-0.5
Women's Clothing	111.6	-0.9	6.4	98.9	1.7	-0.8
Men's Clothing	109.8	-1.5	1.6	101.1	0.3	0.5
Children's Clothing	95.1	-3.1	-3.2	93.5	0.6	-2.5
Footwear	108.0	0.7	-0.6	101.0	0.6	-0.5
Transportation	**145.1**	**0.2**	**2.9**	**144.7**	**-1.0**	**1.6**
Private Transportation	140.7	0.2	3.0	141.7	-1.2	1.4
Operation of Motor Vehicles	152.5	2.1	5.3	157.7	-0.1	4.0
Gasoline	170.9	0.9	6.8	153.1	-0.3	7.8
Public Transportation	186.6	0.3	2.7	178.8	0.2	3.1
Local & Commuter	146.1	0.0	1.5	148.0	0.0	3.1
Inter-City	203.7	0.3	3.1	203.4	0.3	3.1
Health & Personal Care	**125.4**	**-0.1**	**1.5**	**118.8**	**-0.3**	**1.2**
Health Care	130.0	0.0	1.5	124.9	0.1	2.0
Personal Care	120.7	-0.2	1.5	114.0	-0.9	0.4
Recreation, Education & Reading	**133.3**	**-0.1**	**2.9**	**128.6**	**-0.2**	**0.5**
Recreation	120.7	-0.2	-1.8	115.8	-0.3	-1.2
Education & Reading	181.0	0.1	16.8	176.5	0.0	5.4
Education	189.9	0.0	20.4	194.6	0.0	6.4
Reading Material & Other Printed Matter	153.5	0.1	2.0	142.2	0.1	1.8
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco Products	**142.9**	**0.1**	**4.5**	**144.7**	**0.3**	**5.5**
Alcoholic Beverages	124.0	0.2	4.1	125.7	0.6	2.7
Alcoholic Beverages Purchased from Stores	121.2	0.4	4.6	125.3	0.3	2.7
Beer Purchased from Stores	143.4	0.0	5.4	136.2	0.2	3.7
Liquor Purchased from Stores	103.3	2.2	3.4	110.4	0.6	1.6
Tobacco Products & Smokers' Supplies	159.7	-0.1	4.8	144.6	0.2	7.7
Cigarettes	159.5	-0.1	4.7	143.3	0.2	7.7
All-Items Excluding Food	123.1	0.0	2.2	124.7	-0.2	1.6
All-Items Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	120.5	-0.1	1.9	124.8	-0.2	1.7
All-Items Excluding Food & Energy	120.1	-0.1	2.0	121.9	-0.2	1.2

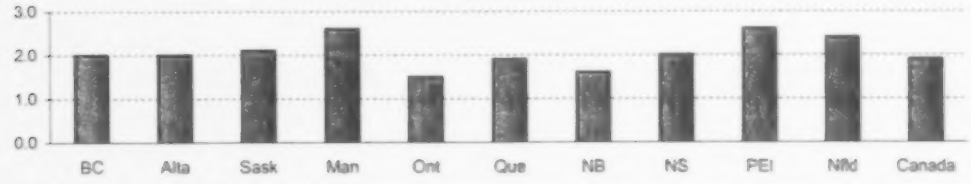
Source: Statistics Canada

Produced by: BC Stats

August 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

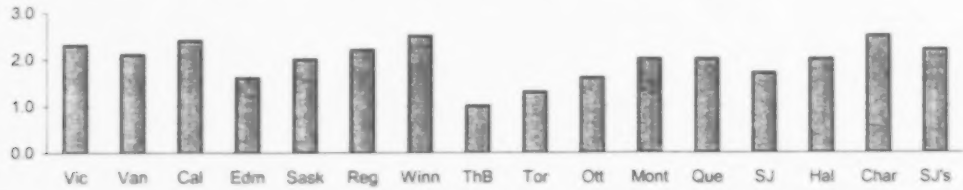
Provinces	Monthly Index	% Change		Annual Index		% Change
	August 2004	July 2004	August 2003	2003	2002	2002/03
Canada	124.8	-0.2	1.9	122.3	119.0	2.8
Newfoundland & Labrador	123.6	-0.2	2.4	120.7	117.3	2.9
Prince Edward Island	124.6	0.0	2.6	121.9	117.7	3.6
Nova Scotia	126.6	-0.1	2.0	123.9	119.8	3.4
New Brunswick	124.7	-0.1	1.6	122.6	118.6	3.4
Quebec	120.7	-0.2	1.9	118.4	115.5	2.5
Ontario	125.7	-0.2	1.5	123.3	120.1	2.7
Manitoba	128.4	0.1	2.6	125.3	123.1	1.8
Saskatchewan	129.5	-0.5	2.1	126.5	123.7	2.3
Alberta	131.9	-0.2	2.0	129.7	124.2	4.4
British Columbia	**123.3**	**-0.1**	**2.0**	**120.4**	**117.9**	**2.1**
Whitehorse	121.3	-0.4	0.7	119.9	117.7	1.9
Yellowknife	118.8	-0.6	0.6	118.4	116.3	1.8
Iqaluit (Dec. 2002=100)	101.4	-0.4	1.1	100.2	n/a	n/a

CPI - Per Cent Change from Same Month of Previous Year



Metropolitan Areas	Monthly Index	% Change		Annual Index		% Change
	August 2004	July 2004	August 2003	2003	2002	2002/03
St. John's	123.4	-0.3	2.2	120.6	117.3	2.8
Charlottetown	123.6	0.0	2.5	120.9	117.1	3.2
Halifax	125.6	0.0	2.0	122.9	119.1	3.2
Saint John	124.3	-0.1	1.7	122.2	118.2	3.4
Quebec City	121.5	-0.1	2.0	119.1	116.2	2.5
Montreal	120.8	0.0	2.0	118.4	115.7	2.3
Ottawa	127.4	-0.2	1.6	124.9	121.9	2.5
Toronto	126.2	-0.2	1.3	124.2	120.6	3.0
Thunder Bay	123.7	-0.2	1.0	122.1	119.3	2.3
Winnipeg	128.5	0.1	2.5	125.5	123.3	1.8
Regina	130.6	-0.4	2.2	127.5	124.6	2.3
Saskatoon	128.6	-0.3	2.0	125.8	123.1	2.2
Edmonton	130.2	-0.2	1.6	128.4	121.9	5.3
Calgary	132.8	-0.2	2.4	130.2	125.8	3.5
Vancouver	**124.0**	**0.1**	**2.1**	**121.0**	**118.6**	**2.0**
Victoria	**123.3**	**0.0**	**2.3**	**120.0**	**117.4**	**2.2**

CPI - Per Cent Change from Same Month of Previous Year



Source: Statistics Canada

Produced by: BC Stats

August 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

British Columbia

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average	Food	Shelter	Household Operation	Clothing Footwear	Trans-portation	Health & Personal	Recreation Education	Alcohol Tobacco
2000	113.3	1.9	113.0	99.6	116.9	112.1	130.0	116.7	121.2	109.7
2001	115.2	1.7	117.4	101.2	118.0	112.6	130.5	119.7	122.6	112.3
2002	117.9	2.3	120.6	101.9	121.0	112.6	135.0	121.9	124.7	126.7
2003	120.4	2.1	122.8	103.7	122.3	111.4	139.3	122.8	129.0	136.0
2003		Month / Year								
Jan	119.0	0.2 / 3.1	122.1	102.7	121.3	110.3	138.0	122.8	125.1	132.2
Feb	119.6	0.5 / 3.2	121.1	102.9	122.3	112.0	140.3	122.7	126.0	134.0
Mar	120.6	0.8 / 3.4	122.3	103.2	122.1	113.8	143.2	121.8	126.9	135.2
Apr	120.4	-0.2 / 2.3	122.7	103.6	121.7	113.5	140.7	122.6	126.9	135.3
May	120.4	0.0 / 1.9	123.3	103.8	121.9	112.1	138.7	121.9	128.7	136.3
Jun	120.2	-0.2 / 1.7	123.3	103.8	122.0	110.4	138.2	121.7	128.4	136.4
Jul	120.5	0.2 / 1.7	123.3	103.8	122.3	111.4	138.6	122.2	129.5	136.4
Aug	120.9	0.3 / 1.9	123.3	103.9	122.4	109.4	141.0	123.5	129.0	136.8
Sep	121.2	0.2 / 2.0	122.4	103.7	123.1	113.0	139.9	123.9	133.6	137.0
Oct	120.6	-0.5 / 1.6	122.3	104.3	122.5	112.5	136.3	124.2	132.3	136.9
Nov	120.8	0.2 / 1.6	123.5	104.2	122.7	110.1	138.2	123.3	130.9	137.0
Dec	120.9	0.1 / 1.8	124.4	104.5	122.7	108.8	138.1	122.6	130.3	138.5
2004										
Jan	120.8	-0.1 / 1.5	124.1	104.4	122.6	109.2	138.4	122.8	128.7	140.9
Feb	121.3	0.4 / 1.4	123.2	104.7	123.3	112.3	139.9	123.4	130.0	142.9
Mar	121.6	0.2 / 0.8	123.5	104.6	123.6	112.9	140.2	123.7	130.5	142.9
Apr	122.4	0.7 / 1.7	123.7	105.7	123.9	111.3	142.4	125.1	130.4	143.1
May	123.4	0.8 / 2.5	124.1	105.8	123.8	112.6	146.3	125.3	132.5	143.5
Jun	123.6	0.2 / 2.8	125.5	105.9	122.9	111.5	146.3	124.9	133.4	143.4
Jul	123.4	-0.2 / 2.4	124.7	106.1	123.1	112.2	144.8	125.5	133.5	142.7
Aug	123.3	-0.1 / 2.0	124.3	106.2	123.1	111.6	145.1	125.4	133.3	142.9

Canada

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average	Food	Shelter	Household Operation	Clothing Footwear	Trans-portation	Health & Personal	Recreation Education	Alcohol Tobacco
2000	113.5	2.7	112.2	108.8	110.0	105.5	130.7	112.0	122.5	97.6
2001	116.4	2.6	117.2	112.8	112.2	106.0	130.8	114.2	124.3	105.1
2002	119.0	2.2	120.3	113.8	113.8	105.2	134.4	115.5	126.3	123.6
2003	122.3	2.8	122.4	117.5	114.6	103.3	141.4	117.0	127.3	136.0
2003		Month / Year								
Jan	121.4	0.8 / 4.5	122.3	116.2	113.9	101.6	141.9	116.1	125.4	132.0
Feb	122.3	0.7 / 4.6	122.1	116.7	114.5	103.8	144.1	116.4	127.1	133.5
Mar	122.8	0.4 / 4.3	122.4	117.4	114.5	105.5	144.6	116.1	126.7	133.8
Apr	121.9	-0.7 / 3.0	122.4	116.5	114.5	103.8	141.8	116.8	126.3	134.5
May	122.0	0.1 / 2.9	122.8	117.1	114.5	103.4	139.8	117.1	127.2	136.2
Jun	122.1	0.1 / 2.6	123.2	117.7	114.5	101.0	139.5	116.8	127.6	136.4
Jul	122.2	0.1 / 2.2	123.2	117.6	114.6	101.6	139.9	116.9	127.9	136.6
Aug	122.5	0.2 / 2.0	122.1	117.7	114.7	101.8	142.4	117.4	128.0	137.1
Sep	122.7	0.2 / 2.2	121.3	117.9	115.1	105.0	141.9	117.6	128.9	137.1
Oct	122.4	-0.2 / 1.6	121.1	118.2	115.1	105.0	139.7	117.7	128.3	137.0
Nov	122.7	0.2 / 1.6	122.3	118.3	114.9	104.2	140.9	118.0	127.5	137.6
Dec	122.8	0.1 / 2.0	123.4	118.8	114.9	102.5	140.8	117.6	126.5	140.1
2004										
Jan	122.9	0.1 / 1.2	123.7	118.7	114.9	102.3	142.2	117.7	125.3	140.8
Feb	123.2	0.2 / 0.7	123.4	119.0	115.2	104.0	141.9	117.7	126.6	141.1
Mar	123.6	0.3 / 0.7	123.6	119.0	115.3	105.3	142.8	118.3	127.3	141.3
Apr	123.9	0.2 / 1.6	123.4	119.6	115.6	103.8	143.5	119.0	127.1	142.2
May	125.0	0.9 / 2.5	124.4	119.8	115.4	102.8	148.2	119.0	128.4	143.4
Jun	125.1	0.1 / 2.5	125.6	120.3	115.0	101.9	147.1	119.1	128.5	144.0
Jul	125.0	-0.1 / 2.3	125.6	120.6	114.9	100.9	146.2	119.2	128.9	144.2
Aug	124.8	-0.2 / 1.9	125.3	120.9	115.0	101.8	144.7	118.8	128.6	144.7

August 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

BRITISH COLUMBIA		Rented Accom-modation	Owned Accom-modation	Energy for Dwellings			Motor Gasoline	Energy*	All Items Excluding Food	All Items Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	All Items Excluding Food & Energy
				Piped Gas	Fuel Oil/ Other Fuel	Electricity[1]					
	2000	110.7	89.0	167.4	137.6	105.7	134.3	130.8	113.4	111.5	111.9
	2001	111.9	89.7	222.9	141.0	91.9	134.3	134.3	114.7	113.3	113.0
	2002	113.5	89.7	198.6	131.6	106.3	135.7	135.9	117.3	115.5	115.7
	2003	114.7	91.3	223.7	151.0	106.9	148.4	144.9	119.9	117.8	117.8
2003	Jan	114.2	90.5	202.7	143.4	106.8	141.6	139.8	118.4	116.5	116.5
	Feb	114.3	90.6	202.7	150.5	106.8	154.0	146.1	119.3	117.0	117.0
	Mar	114.4	90.8	205.7	178.6	106.8	167.4	153.5	120.2	118.0	117.4
	Apr	114.5	91.0	230.3	165.0	106.8	153.1	147.9	119.9	117.8	117.5
	May	114.5	91.3	230.3	149.8	106.8	142.0	142.1	119.8	117.7	117.8
	Jun	114.6	91.3	230.3	149.8	106.8	142.2	142.2	119.6	117.6	117.6
	Jul	114.7	91.3	230.3	149.8	107.0	144.0	143.2	119.9	117.8	117.9
	Aug	114.7	91.3	230.3	149.8	107.0	160.0	151.0	120.4	118.2	117.8
	Sep	114.8	91.1	230.3	151.1	107.0	157.3	149.8	121.0	118.6	118.5
	Oct	114.9	91.9	230.3	140.2	107.0	140.0	141.0	120.3	118.0	118.5
	Nov	115.0	91.8	230.3	138.6	107.0	141.1	141.6	120.3	118.1	118.4
	Dec	115.2	92.1	230.3	145.4	107.0	138.5	140.4	120.2	118.2	118.4
2004	Jan	115.3	92.0	215.9	150.0	107.0	141.1	140.8	120.1	118.0	118.2
	Feb	115.4	92.3	215.9	153.1	107.0	150.2	145.3	120.9	118.4	118.8
	Mar	115.5	92.2	215.9	162.8	107.0	156.1	148.5	121.2	118.8	118.9
	Apr	115.8	92.9	215.9	160.0	114.0	163.8	155.3	122.1	119.6	119.3
	May	115.8	93.0	215.9	171.3	114.0	180.9	164.0	123.3	120.6	119.9
	Jun	115.8	93.1	215.9	171.3	114.0	179.7	163.4	123.2	120.8	119.9
	Jul	115.8	93.2	223.2	171.3	114.0	169.4	158.9	123.1	120.6	120.2
	Aug	115.9	93.4	223.2	171.3	114.0	170.9	159.6	123.1	120.5	120.1

[1] *electricity figure for 2001 reflects BC Hydro rebates in February and March*

CANADA		Rented Accom-modation	Owned Accom-modation	Energy for Dwellings			Motor Gasoline	Energy*	All Items Excluding Food	All Items Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	All Items Excluding Food & Energy
				Piped Gas	Fuel Oil/ Other Fuel	Electricity					
	2000	111.5	102.9	158.9	143.2	109.2	131.7	128.1	113.9	115.0	112.2
	2001	113.3	105.9	206.0	143.5	111.1	128.3	132.3	116.3	117.7	114.4
	2002	115.5	107.6	168.7	131.8	119.6	127.2	129.6	118.8	119.6	117.5
	2003	117.2	110.9	219.5	151.5	117.2	135.4	139.9	122.4	122.5	120.5
2003	Jan	116.6	109.4	201.3	158.1	118.4	138.0	140.4	121.3	121.7	119.2
	Feb	116.7	109.7	203.5	176.9	118.4	147.7	146.5	122.4	122.6	119.9
	Mar	116.8	110.0	218.1	198.9	118.3	149.1	149.5	122.9	123.1	120.2
	Apr	116.9	110.3	230.3	163.0	106.3	135.7	137.4	121.9	122.2	120.2
	May	117.0	110.6	210.2	143.7	117.9	126.4	134.4	121.9	122.2	120.4
	Jun	117.1	110.9	228.3	143.7	119.0	127.9	137.0	121.9	122.3	120.2
	Jul	117.2	110.9	226.2	143.7	117.9	130.3	137.6	122.0	122.4	120.3
	Aug	117.4	110.9	223.6	143.7	118.3	142.0	143.5	122.7	122.7	120.5
	Sep	117.5	111.1	232.2	138.0	118.2	141.0	143.4	123.1	122.9	120.9
	Oct	117.7	112.0	213.0	132.7	118.5	131.7	137.0	122.7	122.6	121.1
	Nov	117.8	112.1	221.7	135.8	117.1	127.9	135.4	122.8	122.9	121.4
	Dec	117.9	112.4	225.6	140.3	118.5	127.3	136.2	122.7	122.9	121.2
2004	Jan	118.0	112.5	204.7	154.3	118.5	134.6	138.9	122.8	123.0	121.1
	Feb	118.0	112.7	208.6	160.3	118.6	139.2	141.9	123.2	123.3	121.2
	Mar	118.1	112.8	203.3	160.5	118.5	142.9	143.3	123.7	123.7	121.6
	Apr	118.2	113.1	209.9	156.8	122.4	145.0	146.2	124.0	123.9	121.7
	May	118.3	113.3	209.1	159.1	122.4	164.7	156.2	125.1	125.1	122.0
	Jun	118.4	113.5	225.9	159.1	122.4	159.2	154.8	125.0	125.1	122.0
	Jul	118.4	113.9	225.5	159.1	123.3	153.6	152.3	124.9	125.0	122.2
	Aug	118.7	114.1	228.9	159.1	123.4	153.1	152.4	124.7	124.8	121.9

* *Energy includes Piped Gas, Fuel Oil/Other Fuel, Electricity, and Motor Gasoline*

Source: Statistics Canada

Produced by: BC Stats

August 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

Vancouver

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average	Shelter	Accommodation Rented	Accommodation Owned	Water, Fuel Electricity
2000	113.9	2.2	100.8	110.2	90.6	135.7
2001	116.0	1.8	103.3	111.5	91.4	153.0
2002	118.6	2.2	103.4	113.1	91.3	150.0
2003	121.0	2.0	105.0	114.4	92.6	154.6
		Month / Year				
2003						
Jan	119.7	0.2 / 2.9	104.1	113.9	91.8	150.7
Feb	120.3	0.5 / 3.2	104.2	114.0	92.0	150.8
Mar	121.2	0.7 / 3.2	104.6	114.1	92.4	151.5
Apr	121.0	-0.2 / 2.2	105.1	114.3	92.5	155.9
May	120.9	-0.1 / 1.6	105.2	114.3	92.7	155.7
Jun	120.8	-0.1 / 1.5	105.2	114.4	92.8	155.7
Jul	120.9	0.1 / 1.4	105.2	114.4	92.7	155.7
Aug	121.5	0.5 / 1.8	105.1	114.5	92.6	155.7
Sep	121.8	0.2 / 1.8	105.0	114.7	92.3	155.8
Oct	121.3	-0.4 / 1.4	105.5	114.8	93.0	155.7
Nov	121.4	0.1 / 1.4	105.5	114.8	92.9	155.7
Dec	121.6	0.2 / 1.8	105.7	115.0	93.2	155.8
2004						
Jan	121.3	-0.2 / 1.3	105.5	115.2	93.0	154.0
Feb	121.8	0.4 / 1.2	105.9	115.3	93.6	154.1
Mar	122.2	0.3 / 0.8	105.8	115.4	93.4	154.2
Apr	123.0	0.7 / 1.7	106.9	115.6	94.0	161.5
May	124.0	0.8 / 2.6	106.9	115.7	94.0	161.7
Jun	124.1	0.1 / 2.7	107.0	115.7	94.1	161.7
Jul	123.9	-0.2 / 2.5	107.1	115.7	94.2	163.1
Aug	124.0	0.1 / 2.1	107.2	115.7	94.3	163.1

Victoria

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average	Shelter	Accommodation Rented	Accommodation Owned	Water, Fuel Electricity
2000	113.0	1.7	99.2	110.5	89.1	118.8
2001	114.3	1.2	98.9	111.4	89.8	110.3
2002	117.4	2.7	100.8	113.2	90.2	120.5
2003	120.0	2.2	102.9	114.3	92.3	124.6
		Month / Year				
2003						
Jan	118.7	0.3 / 3.3	101.9	114.0	91.2	123.2
Feb	119.2	0.4 / 3.3	102.1	114.0	91.3	123.8
Mar	120.1	0.8 / 3.4	102.5	114.1	91.4	128.4
Apr	119.9	-0.2 / 2.4	102.6	114.2	91.7	127.1
May	119.9	0.0 / 2.0	102.8	114.1	92.2	124.6
Jun	119.7	-0.2 / 1.6	102.8	114.1	92.1	124.6
Jul	120.1	0.3 / 1.7	103.0	114.2	92.4	124.9
Aug	120.5	0.3 / 1.9	103.2	114.3	92.6	124.9
Sep	120.8	0.2 / 2.0	102.8	114.4	92.1	124.6
Oct	120.4	-0.3 / 1.8	103.7	114.6	93.4	122.9
Nov	120.5	0.1 / 1.6	103.5	114.7	93.2	122.9
Dec	120.7	0.2 / 1.9	103.9	114.9	93.6	123.7
2004						
Jan	120.6	-0.1 / 1.6	104.0	114.9	93.5	125.5
Feb	121.0	0.3 / 1.5	104.2	114.9	93.7	126.0
Mar	121.3	0.2 / 1.0	104.2	115.0	93.4	127.8
Apr	122.2	0.7 / 1.9	105.6	115.2	94.5	133.2
May	123.2	0.8 / 2.8	105.9	115.3	94.7	135.0
Jun	123.5	0.2 / 3.2	106.0	115.3	94.9	135.0
Jul	123.3	-0.2 / 2.7	106.2	115.3	95.1	135.2
Aug	123.3	0.0 / 2.3	106.3	115.5	95.2	135.2

Source: Statistics Canada

Produced by: BC Stats

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BRITISH COLUMBIA

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Consumer Price Index ◆ September 2004

Highlights

- BC's Consumer Price Index rose 1.9% from September of 2003. Prince Edward Island had the greatest increase with a 2.5% rise in prices compared to a year ago. The lowest year-over-year inflation rate was seen in New Brunswick with a 1.4% increase. Nationally, prices rose 1.8% over the same period.

- Of the metropolitan areas, Charlottetown posted the highest increase in the CPI from last September at 2.5%, while residents of Edmonton enjoyed the lowest increase at 1.2%. Over the same period, Victoria's CPI rose 2.3%, while Vancouver's rose 1.9%.

- Compared to a year ago, BC residents paid more for fuel oil (+17.2%), education (+10.6%), meat (+10.1%), gasoline (+7.6%), electricity (+6.5%), and beer (+5.4%). Offsetting these increases were lower costs for non-alcoholic beverages (-5.8%), children's clothing (-4.5%), fresh vegetables (-4.0%), and natural gas (-3.1%).

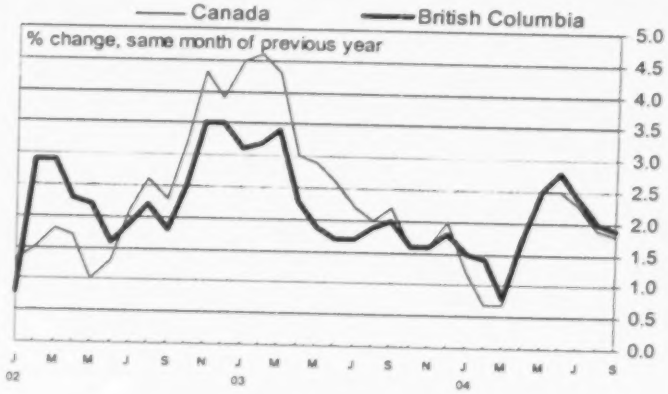
- BC's Energy Index (which includes natural gas, fuel oil, electricity and gasoline) **dropped 0.4% from last month,** partly due to decreased gasoline prices. Natural gas and electricity prices remained unchanged from August 2004, while fuel oil prices rose 3.4%.

- BC's CPI, excluding food and energy, was 1.8% higher than in September 2003. The comparable figure for Canada was 1.2%.

Note: Statistics Canada will release the October Consumer Price Index on November 23, 2004.

1992=100	Index	% Change from	
	September 2004	August 2004	September 2003
Canada	124.9	0.1	1.8
BC	123.5	0.2	1.9
Vancouver	124.1	0.1	1.9
Victoria	123.6	0.2	2.3
Core Canada[1]	124.7	0.3	1.5

BC and Canada Inflation Below 2.0%



1992=100	Latest 12-Month Average Index (ending in Sept. 2004)	Latest 12-Month Average % Change	2003 Annual Average % Change
Canada	123.9	1.7	2.8
BC	122.1	1.8	2.1
Vancouver	122.7	1.8	2.0
Victoria	122.0	2.0	2.2

[1]**The Core CPI for Canada:** Defined by the Bank of Canada as the All-items index excluding the eight most volatile components (fruit, vegetables, gasoline, fuel oil, natural gas, mortgage interest, intercity transportation and tobacco products). Also excluded is the effect of changes in indirect taxes on the remaining components.

Consumer Price Index—Terms and Definitions

Base Effect

The 12-month variation in the CPI is calculated by comparing the current month's index with the index for the same month of the previous year. The 12-month change is represented by the difference in the indexes of the reference months. Thus, the 12-month variation can decrease from one month to the next merely because the base serving as the point of comparison increased.

Source: Statistics Canada

Twelve-Month Percent Changes

Also referred to as "year-over-year", twelve-month percent changes compare indexes for a given month to indexes for the same month of the previous year. As they compare two points in time, they are influenced by unusual or temporary events that can affect either of the two months. Their calculation does not include any of the intervening monthly indexes.

Source: Statistics Canada

Annual Average Index

Annual average indexes are calculated by averaging index levels over the 12 months of the calendar year. These data should not be confused with the 12-month change in the CPI. By the nature of the calculation, averaging indexes over the calendar year gives a better representation of price behaviour over the whole year and is closer to the concept of an average price. The use of annual averages is considered the preferred option for indexation purposes.

Source: Statistics Canada

Latest Twelve-Month Average Index

The latest twelve-month average index (ending in the current month) is a 12-month moving average of the indexes of the most recent 12 months. It is calculated like the annual average index. Hence, in theory, the December twelve-month average index would be equal to the annual average index for the calendar year. However, in practice, when BC STATS makes these calculations from published data, the December 12-month average index may differ from Statistics Canada's published annual average index due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada and BC Stats

Changes to the Treatment of Rebates in the Consumer Price Index

Beginning with the Consumer Price Index for October 2003, Statistics Canada will change its treatment of rebate payments. The change will affect some types of rebate programs usually related to electricity or natural gas utilities.

Rebates will no longer be reflected in the CPI if they are paid on the basis of past consumption and were not known to consumers at the time of consumption.

To be reflected in the CPI, rebates or credits must relate to specific products and apply to all consumers (or a large proportion of consumers) of the product affected. CPI practice has been to reflect the impact of rebates at the time when rebates are paid. If a rebate was greater than the average monthly charge, the remainder of the rebate was reflected in following months until the rebate had been fully accounted for. Thus the CPI could reflect an average price close to zero for one month or several months in some situations. As a result, the treatment

of rebates has had a significant effect on the rate of change in the CPI, making the indexes for utilities particularly volatile.

The impact of the change will be to reduce short-term fluctuations in the CPI arising from rebates on past consumption. By treating retroactive rebates as windfalls to income rather than as price changes, the level of the CPI will be higher for the months that would have been affected under the past treatment of these rebates, with a corresponding impact on annual averages.

Rebate programs known to consumers at the time of purchase will continue to be accounted for in the CPI.

Source: Statistics Canada

More information about the concepts and use of the CPI is available online in the Statistics Canada publication *Your Guide to the Consumer Price Index* (www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/62-557-XIB/free.htm).

Prepared by: BC Stats, February 2004

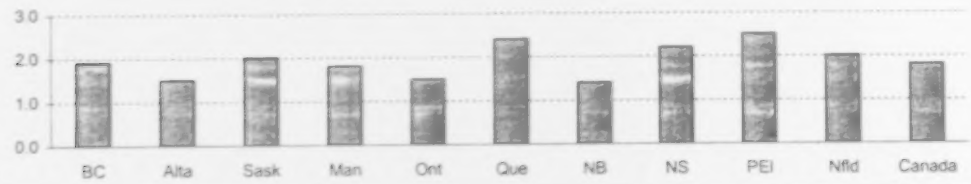
September 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

	British Columbia			Canada		
	Index September 2004	% Change August 2004	% Change September 2003	Index September 2004	% Change August 2004	% Change September 2003
All-Items Index (1992=100)	**123.5**	**0.2**	**1.9**	**124.9**	**0.1**	**1.8**
Food	**123.6**	**-0.6**	**1.0**	**124.7**	**-0.5**	**2.8**
Food Purchased From Stores	120.8	-0.8	0.8	123.2	-0.7	2.8
Meat	135.0	-1.4	10.1	138.9	-0.6	10.9
Fish & Other Seafood	124.4	-1.9	-1.9	121.8	-0.9	-1.0
Dairy Products & Eggs	126.7	0.3	0.2	127.7	0.1	2.7
Bakery & Other Cereal Products	121.4	-1.6	0.7	130.3	0.2	2.9
Fruit, Fruit Preparations & Nuts	106.1	-2.3	-1.0	109.2	-2.4	1.6
Fresh Fruit	101.9	-3.1	0.4	111.5	-3.6	3.0
Vegetables & Vegetable Preparations	94.1	0.6	-3.2	94.2	-4.4	-1.7
Fresh Vegetables	88.6	1.6	-4.0	89.8	-5.8	-2.8
Other Food Products	126.0	-0.2	-1.8	122.3	0.1	-0.6
Coffee & Tea	130.2	-0.2	-2.2	127.8	-0.5	1.0
Non-Alcoholic Beverages	77.4	1.4	-5.8	100.4	1.2	-2.8
Food Purchased From Restaurants	129.9	0.1	1.3	128.9	0.1	2.6
Shelter	**106.6**	**0.4**	**2.8**	**121.2**	**0.2**	**2.8**
Rented Accommodation	115.9	0.0	1.0	118.7	0.0	1.0
Owned Accommodation	93.8	0.4	3.0	114.4	0.3	3.0
Property taxes	148.0	0.0	4.4	126.6	0.0	2.8
Water, Fuel & Electricity	153.7	0.1	4.8	152.5	0.4	4.5
Electricity	114.0	0.0	6.5	123.4	0.0	4.4
Piped Gas	223.2	0.0	-3.1	226.8	-0.9	-2.3
Fuel Oil & Other Fuel	177.1	3.4	17.2	168.0	5.6	21.7
Household Operations & Furnishings	**122.7**	**-0.3**	**-0.3**	**115.4**	**0.3**	**0.3**
Household Operations	130.3	-0.2	0.8	120.4	0.1	0.8
Household Furnishings	111.8	-0.7	-2.5	107.7	0.7	-0.6
Clothing & Footwear	**113.0**	**1.3**	**0.0**	**104.9**	**3.0**	**-0.1**
Clothing	110.4	1.6	-0.8	102.8	3.8	-0.9
Women's Clothing	111.9	0.3	-1.2	105.0	6.2	-0.4
Men's Clothing	113.4	3.3	0.9	103.3	2.2	0.0
Children's Clothing	96.0	0.9	-4.5	93.1	-0.4	-5.9
Footwear	109.3	1.2	-1.0	103.6	2.6	0.2
Transportation	**144.0**	**-0.8**	**2.9**	**143.7**	**-0.7**	**1.3**
Private Transportation	140.0	-0.5	3.0	140.9	-0.6	1.1
Operation of Motor Vehicles	151.9	-0.4	5.6	157.0	-0.4	3.7
Gasoline	169.2	-1.0	7.6	151.2	-1.2	7.2
Public Transportation	181.4	-2.8	2.6	174.8	-2.2	2.9
Local & Commuter	146.1	0.0	1.1	148.0	0.0	3.1
Inter-City	196.1	-3.7	3.2	196.1	-3.6	2.7
Health & Personal Care	**126.0**	**0.5**	**1.7**	**119.2**	**0.3**	**1.4**
Health Care	130.5	0.4	2.0	125.2	0.2	2.0
Personal Care	121.5	0.7	1.4	114.6	0.5	0.7
Recreation, Education & Reading	**135.8**	**1.9**	**1.6**	**129.4**	**0.6**	**0.4**
Recreation	119.8	-0.7	-1.2	115.4	-0.3	-0.7
Education & Reading	196.5	8.6	9.3	182.0	3.1	3.5
Education	209.1	10.1	10.6	201.9	3.8	3.7
Reading Material & Other Printed Matter	155.1	1.0	3.1	143.5	0.9	2.6
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco Products	**143.0**	**0.1**	**4.4**	**144.6**	**-0.1**	**5.5**
Alcoholic Beverages	124.1	0.1	3.8	125.6	-0.1	2.7
Alcoholic Beverages Purchased from Stores	121.3	0.1	4.2	125.1	-0.2	2.6
Beer Purchased from Stores	143.4	0.0	5.4	135.7	-0.4	3.4
Liquor Purchased from Stores	103.8	0.5	3.5	110.5	0.1	1.7
Tobacco Products & Smokers' Supplies	159.8	0.1	4.9	144.5	-0.1	7.6
Cigarettes	159.7	0.1	4.9	143.3	0.0	7.6
All-Items Excluding Food	123.5	0.3	2.1	125.0	0.2	1.5
All-Items Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	120.7	0.2	1.8	125.0	0.2	1.7
All-Items Excluding Food & Energy	120.6	0.4	1.8	122.3	0.3	1.2

September 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

Provinces	Monthly Index	% Change		Annual Index		% Change
	September 2004	August 2004	September 2003	2003	2002	2002/03
Canada	124.9	0.1	1.8	122.3	119.0	2.8
Newfoundland & Labrador	123.8	0.2	2.0	120.7	117.3	2.9
Prince Edward Island	125.2	0.5	2.5	121.9	117.7	3.6
Nova Scotia	126.8	0.2	2.2	123.9	119.8	3.4
New Brunswick	124.7	0.0	1.4	122.6	118.6	3.4
Quebec	121.0	0.2	2.4	118.4	115.5	2.5
Ontario	125.8	0.1	1.5	123.3	120.1	2.7
Manitoba	128.2	-0.2	1.8	125.3	123.1	1.8
Saskatchewan	129.7	0.2	2.0	126.5	123.7	2.3
Alberta	132.0	0.1	1.5	129.7	124.2	4.4
British Columbia	**123.5**	**0.2**	**1.9**	**120.4**	**117.9**	**2.1**
Whitehorse	121.6	0.2	1.2	119.9	117.7	1.9
Yellowknife	118.8	0.0	0.8	118.4	116.3	1.8
Iqaluit (Dec. 2002=100)	101.6	0.2	1.3	100.2	n/a	n/a

CPI - Per Cent Change from Same Month of Previous Year



Metropolitan Areas	Monthly Index	% Change		Annual Index		% Change
	September 2004	August 2004	September 2003	2003	2002	2002/03
St. John's	123.6	0.2	1.8	120.6	117.3	2.8
Charlottetown	124.2	0.5	2.5	120.9	117.1	3.2
Halifax	125.7	0.1	2.0	122.9	119.1	3.2
Saint John	124.2	-0.1	1.4	122.2	118.2	3.4
Quebec City	121.7	0.2	2.4	119.1	116.2	2.5
Montreal	121.1	0.2	2.4	118.4	115.7	2.3
Ottawa	127.5	0.1	1.6	124.9	121.9	2.5
Toronto	126.5	0.2	1.4	124.2	120.6	3.0
Thunder Bay	123.8	0.1	1.0	122.1	119.3	2.3
Winnipeg	128.2	-0.2	1.7	125.5	123.3	1.8
Regina	130.8	0.2	2.0	127.5	124.6	2.3
Saskatoon	128.7	0.1	1.9	125.8	123.1	2.2
Edmonton	130.4	0.2	1.2	128.4	121.9	5.3
Calgary	132.8	0.0	1.8	130.2	125.8	3.5
Vancouver	**124.1**	**0.1**	**1.9**	**121.0**	**118.6**	**2.0**
Victoria	**123.6**	**0.2**	**2.3**	**120.0**	**117.4**	**2.2**

CPI - Per Cent Change from Same Month of Previous Year

Source: Statistics Canada

Produced by: BC Stats

September 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

British Columbia

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average		Food	Shelter	Household Operation	Clothing Footwear	Trans-portation	Health & Personal	Recreation Education	Alcohol Tobacco
2000	113.3	1.9		113.0	99.6	116.9	112.1	130.0	116.7	121.2	109.7
2001	115.2	1.7		117.4	101.2	118.0	112.6	130.5	119.7	122.6	112.3
2002	117.9	2.3		120.6	101.9	121.0	112.6	135.0	121.9	124.7	126.7
2003	120.4	2.1		122.8	103.7	122.3	111.4	139.3	122.8	129.0	136.0
2003		Month	Year								
Jan	119.0	0.2	3.1	122.1	102.7	121.3	110.3	138.0	122.8	125.1	132.2
Feb	119.6	0.5	3.2	121.1	102.9	122.3	112.0	140.3	122.7	126.0	134.0
Mar	120.6	0.8	3.4	122.3	103.2	122.1	113.8	143.2	121.8	126.9	135.2
Apr	120.4	-0.2	2.3	122.7	103.6	121.7	113.5	140.7	122.6	126.9	135.3
May	120.4	0.0	1.9	123.3	103.8	121.9	112.1	138.7	121.9	128.7	136.3
Jun	120.2	-0.2	1.7	123.3	103.8	122.0	110.4	138.2	121.7	128.4	136.4
Jul	120.5	0.2	1.7	123.3	103.8	122.3	111.4	138.6	122.2	129.5	136.4
Aug	120.9	0.3	1.9	123.3	103.9	122.4	109.4	141.0	123.5	129.6	136.8
Sep	121.2	0.2	2.0	122.4	103.7	123.1	113.0	139.9	123.9	133.6	137.0
Oct	120.6	-0.5	1.6	122.3	104.3	122.5	112.5	136.3	124.2	132.3	136.9
Nov	120.8	0.2	1.6	123.5	104.2	122.7	110.1	138.2	123.3	130.9	137.0
Dec	120.9	0.1	1.8	124.4	104.5	122.7	108.8	138.1	122.6	130.3	138.5
2004											
Jan	120.8	-0.1	1.5	124.1	104.4	122.6	109.2	138.4	122.8	128.7	140.9
Feb	121.3	0.4	1.4	123.2	104.7	123.3	112.3	138.9	123.4	130.0	142.9
Mar	121.6	0.2	0.8	123.5	104.6	123.6	112.9	140.2	123.7	130.5	142.9
Apr	122.4	0.7	1.7	123.7	105.7	123.9	111.3	142.4	125.1	130.4	143.1
May	123.4	0.8	2.5	124.1	105.8	123.8	112.6	146.3	125.3	132.5	143.5
Jun	123.6	0.2	2.8	125.5	105.9	122.9	111.5	146.3	124.9	133.4	143.4
Jul	123.4	-0.2	2.4	124.7	106.1	123.1	112.2	144.8	125.5	133.5	142.7
Aug	123.3	-0.1	2.0	124.3	106.2	123.1	111.6	145.1	125.4	133.3	142.9
Sep	123.5	0.2	1.9	123.6	106.6	122.7	113.0	144.0	126.0	135.8	143.0

Canada

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average		Food	Shelter	Household Operation	Clothing Footwear	Trans-portation	Health & Personal	Recreation Education	Alcohol Tobacco
2000	113.5	2.7		112.2	108.8	110.0	105.5	130.7	112.0	122.5	97.6
2001	116.4	2.6		117.2	112.8	112.2	106.0	130.8	114.2	124.3	105.1
2002	119.0	2.2		120.3	113.8	113.8	105.2	134.4	115.5	126.3	123.6
2003	122.3	2.8		122.4	117.5	114.6	103.3	141.4	117.0	127.3	136.0
2003		Month	Year								
Jan	121.4	0.8	4.5	122.3	116.2	113.9	101.6	141.9	116.1	125.4	132.0
Feb	122.3	0.7	4.6	122.1	116.7	114.5	103.8	144.1	116.8	127.1	133.5
Mar	122.8	0.4	4.3	122.4	117.4	114.5	105.5	144.6	116.1	126.7	133.8
Apr	121.9	-0.7	3.0	122.4	116.5	114.5	103.8	141.8	116.8	126.3	134.5
May	122.0	0.1	2.9	122.8	117.1	114.5	103.4	139.8	117.1	127.2	136.2
Jun	122.1	0.1	2.6	123.2	117.7	114.5	101.0	139.5	116.8	127.6	136.4
Jul	122.2	0.1	2.2	123.2	117.6	114.6	101.6	139.9	116.9	127.9	136.6
Aug	122.5	0.2	2.0	122.1	117.7	114.7	101.8	142.4	117.4	128.0	137.1
Sep	122.7	0.2	2.2	121.3	117.9	115.1	105.0	141.9	117.6	128.9	137.1
Oct	122.4	-0.2	1.6	121.1	118.2	115.1	105.0	139.7	117.7	128.3	137.0
Nov	122.7	0.2	1.6	122.3	118.3	114.9	104.2	140.9	118.0	127.5	137.6
Dec	122.8	0.1	2.0	123.4	118.8	114.9	102.5	140.8	117.6	126.5	140.1
2004											
Jan	122.9	0.1	1.2	123.7	118.7	114.9	102.3	142.2	117.7	125.3	140.8
Feb	123.2	0.2	0.7	123.4	119.0	115.2	104.0	141.9	117.7	126.6	141.1
Mar	123.6	0.3	0.7	123.6	119.0	115.3	105.3	142.8	118.3	127.3	141.3
Apr	123.9	0.2	1.6	123.4	119.6	115.6	103.8	143.5	119.0	127.1	142.2
May	125.0	0.9	2.5	124.4	119.8	115.4	102.8	148.2	119.0	128.4	143.4
Jun	125.1	0.1	2.5	125.6	120.3	115.0	101.9	147.1	119.1	128.5	144.0
Jul	125.0	-0.1	2.3	125.6	120.6	114.9	100.9	146.2	119.2	128.9	144.2
Aug	124.8	-0.2	1.9	125.3	120.9	115.0	101.8	144.7	118.8	128.6	144.7
Sep	124.9	0.1	1.8	124.7	121.2	115.4	104.9	143.7	119.2	129.4	144.6

September 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

BRITISH COLUMBIA		Rented Accom-modation	Owned Accom-modation	Energy for Dwellings			Motor Gasoline	Energy*	All Items Excluding Food	All Items Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	All Items Excluding Food & Energy
				Piped Gas	Fuel Oil/ Other Fuel	Electricity[1]					
	2000	110.7	89.0	167.4	137.6	105.7	134.3	130.8	113.4	111.5	111.9
	2001	111.9	89.7	222.9	141.0	91.9	134.3	134.3	114.7	113.3	113.0
	2002	113.5	89.7	198.6	131.6	106.3	135.7	135.9	117.3	115.5	115.7
	2003	114.7	91.3	223.7	151.0	106.9	148.4	144.9	119.9	117.8	117.8
2003	Jan	114.2	90.5	202.7	143.4	106.8	141.6	139.8	118.4	116.5	116.5
	Feb	114.3	90.6	202.7	150.5	106.8	154.0	146.1	119.3	117.0	117.0
	Mar	114.4	90.8	205.7	178.6	106.8	167.4	153.5	120.2	118.0	117.4
	Apr	114.5	91.0	230.3	165.0	106.8	153.1	147.9	119.9	117.8	117.5
	May	114.5	91.3	230.3	149.8	106.8	142.0	142.1	119.8	117.7	117.8
	Jun	114.6	91.3	230.3	149.8	106.8	142.2	142.2	119.6	117.6	117.6
	Jul	114.7	91.3	230.3	149.8	107.0	144.0	143.2	119.9	117.8	117.9
	Aug	114.7	91.3	230.3	149.8	107.0	160.0	151.0	120.4	118.2	117.8
	Sep	114.8	91.1	230.3	151.1	107.0	157.3	149.8	121.0	118.6	118.5
	Oct	114.9	91.9	230.3	140.2	107.0	140.0	141.0	120.3	118.0	118.5
	Nov	115.0	91.8	230.3	138.6	107.0	141.1	141.6	120.3	118.1	118.4
	Dec	115.2	92.1	230.3	145.4	107.0	138.5	140.4	120.2	118.2	118.4
2004	Jan	115.3	92.0	215.9	150.0	107.0	141.1	140.8	120.1	118.0	118.2
	Feb	115.4	92.3	215.9	153.1	107.0	150.2	145.3	120.9	118.4	118.8
	Mar	115.5	92.2	215.9	162.8	107.0	156.1	148.5	121.2	118.8	118.9
	Apr	115.8	92.9	215.9	160.0	114.0	163.8	155.3	122.1	119.6	119.3
	May	115.8	93.0	215.9	171.3	114.0	180.9	164.0	123.3	120.6	119.9
	Jun	115.8	93.1	215.9	171.3	114.0	179.7	163.4	123.2	120.8	119.9
	Jul	115.8	93.2	223.2	171.3	114.0	169.4	158.9	123.1	120.6	120.2
	Aug	115.9	93.4	223.2	171.3	114.0	170.9	159.6	123.1	120.5	120.1
	Sep	115.9	93.8	223.2	177.1	114.0	169.2	158.9	123.5	120.7	120.6

[1] *electricity figure for 2001 reflects BC Hydro rebates in February and March*

CANADA		Rented Accom-modation	Owned Accom-modation	Energy for Dwellings			Motor Gasoline	Energy*	All Items Excluding Food	All Items Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	All Items Excluding Food & Energy
				Piped Gas	Fuel Oil/ Other Fuel	Electricity					
	2000	111.5	102.9	158.9	143.2	109.2	131.7	128.1	113.9	115.0	112.2
	2001	113.3	105.9	206.0	143.5	111.1	128.3	132.3	116.3	117.7	114.4
	2002	115.5	107.6	168.7	131.8	119.6	127.2	129.6	118.8	119.6	117.5
	2003	117.2	110.9	219.5	151.5	117.2	135.4	139.9	122.4	122.5	120.5
2003	Jan	116.6	109.4	201.3	158.1	118.4	138.0	140.4	121.3	121.7	119.2
	Feb	116.7	109.7	203.5	176.9	118.4	147.7	146.5	122.4	122.6	119.9
	Mar	116.8	110.0	218.1	198.9	118.3	149.1	149.5	122.9	123.1	120.2
	Apr	116.9	110.3	230.3	163.0	106.3	135.7	137.4	121.9	122.2	120.2
	May	117.0	110.6	210.2	143.7	117.9	126.4	134.4	121.9	122.2	120.4
	Jun	117.1	110.9	228.3	143.7	119.0	127.9	137.0	121.9	122.3	120.2
	Jul	117.2	110.9	226.2	143.7	117.9	130.3	137.6	122.0	122.4	120.3
	Aug	117.4	110.9	223.6	143.7	118.3	142.0	143.5	122.7	122.7	120.5
	Sep	117.5	111.1	232.2	138.0	118.2	141.0	143.4	123.1	122.9	120.9
	Oct	117.7	112.0	213.0	132.7	118.5	131.7	137.0	122.7	122.6	121.1
	Nov	117.8	112.1	221.7	135.8	117.1	127.9	135.4	122.8	122.9	121.4
	Dec	117.9	112.4	225.6	140.3	118.5	127.3	136.2	122.7	122.9	121.2
2004	Jan	118.0	112.5	204.7	154.3	118.5	134.6	138.9	122.8	123.0	121.1
	Feb	118.0	112.7	208.6	160.3	118.6	139.2	141.9	123.2	123.3	121.2
	Mar	118.1	112.8	203.3	160.5	118.5	142.9	143.3	123.7	123.7	121.6
	Apr	118.2	113.1	209.9	156.8	122.4	145.0	146.2	124.0	123.9	121.7
	May	118.3	113.3	209.1	159.1	122.4	164.7	156.2	125.1	125.1	122.0
	Jun	118.4	113.5	225.9	159.1	122.4	159.2	154.8	125.0	125.1	122.0
	Jul	118.4	113.9	225.5	159.1	123.3	153.6	152.3	124.9	125.0	122.2
	Aug	118.7	114.1	228.9	159.1	123.4	153.1	152.4	124.7	124.8	121.9
	Sep	118.7	114.4	226.8	168.0	123.4	151.2	151.7	125.0	125.0	122.3

* *Energy includes Piped Gas, Fuel Oil/Other Fuel, Electricity, and Motor Gasoline*

Source: Statistics Canada

Produced by: BC Stats

September 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

Vancouver

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average	Shelter	Accommodation Rented	Accommodation Owned	Water, Fuel Electricity
2000	113.9	2.2	100.8	110.2	90.6	135.7
2001	116.0	1.8	103.3	111.5	91.4	153.0
2002	118.6	2.2	103.4	113.1	91.3	150.0
2003	121.0	2.0	105.0	114.4	92.6	154.6
2003		Month / Year				
Jan	119.7	0.2 / 2.9	104.1	113.9	91.8	150.7
Feb	120.3	0.5 / 3.2	104.2	114.0	92.0	150.8
Mar	121.2	0.7 / 3.2	104.6	114.1	92.4	151.5
Apr	121.0	-0.2 / 2.2	105.1	114.3	92.5	155.9
May	120.9	-0.1 / 1.6	105.2	114.3	92.7	155.7
Jun	120.8	-0.1 / 1.5	105.2	114.4	92.8	155.7
Jul	120.9	0.1 / 1.4	105.2	114.4	92.7	155.7
Aug	121.5	0.5 / 1.8	105.1	114.5	92.6	155.7
Sep	121.8	0.2 / 1.8	105.0	114.7	92.3	155.8
Oct	121.3	-0.4 / 1.4	105.5	114.8	93.0	155.7
Nov	121.4	0.1 / 1.4	105.5	114.8	92.9	155.7
Dec	121.6	0.2 / 1.8	105.7	115.0	93.2	155.8
2004						
Jan	121.3	-0.2 / 1.3	105.5	115.2	93.0	154.0
Feb	121.8	0.4 / 1.2	105.9	115.3	93.6	154.1
Mar	122.2	0.3 / 0.8	105.8	115.4	93.4	154.2
Apr	123.0	0.7 / 1.7	106.9	115.6	94.0	161.5
May	124.0	0.8 / 2.6	106.9	115.7	94.0	161.7
Jun	124.1	0.1 / 2.7	107.0	115.7	94.1	161.7
Jul	123.9	-0.2 / 2.5	107.1	115.7	94.2	163.1
Aug	124.0	0.1 / 2.1	107.2	115.7	94.3	163.1
Sep	124.1	0.1 / 1.9	107.5	115.7	94.6	163.0

Victoria

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average	Shelter	Accommodation Rented	Accommodation Owned	Water, Fuel Electricity
2000	113.0	1.7	99.2	110.5	89.1	118.8
2001	114.3	1.2	98.9	111.4	89.8	110.3
2002	117.4	2.7	100.8	113.2	90.2	120.5
2003	120.0	2.2	102.9	114.3	92.3	124.6
2003		Month / Year				
Jan	118.7	0.3 / 3.3	101.9	114.0	91.2	123.2
Feb	119.2	0.4 / 3.3	102.1	114.0	91.3	123.8
Mar	120.1	0.8 / 3.4	102.5	114.1	91.4	128.4
Apr	119.9	-0.2 / 2.4	102.6	114.2	91.7	127.1
May	119.9	0.0 / 2.0	102.8	114.1	92.2	124.6
Jun	119.7	-0.2 / 1.6	102.8	114.1	92.1	124.6
Jul	120.1	0.3 / 1.7	103.0	114.2	92.4	124.9
Aug	120.5	0.3 / 1.9	103.2	114.3	92.6	124.9
Sep	120.8	0.2 / 2.0	102.8	114.4	92.1	124.6
Oct	120.4	-0.3 / 1.8	103.7	114.6	93.4	122.9
Nov	120.5	0.1 / 1.6	103.5	114.7	93.2	122.9
Dec	120.7	0.2 / 1.9	103.9	114.9	93.6	123.7
2004						
Jan	120.6	-0.1 / 1.6	104.0	114.9	93.5	125.5
Feb	121.0	0.3 / 1.5	104.2	114.9	93.7	126.0
Mar	121.3	0.2 / 1.0	104.2	115.0	93.4	127.8
Apr	122.2	0.7 / 1.9	105.6	115.2	94.5	133.2
May	123.2	0.8 / 2.8	105.9	115.3	94.7	135.0
Jun	123.5	0.2 / 3.2	106.0	115.3	94.9	135.0
Jul	123.3	-0.2 / 2.7	106.2	115.3	95.1	135.2
Aug	123.3	0.0 / 2.3	106.3	115.5	95.2	135.2
Sep	123.6	0.2 / 2.3	106.8	115.5	95.9	135.1

BRITISH COLUMBIA

BC STATS

Ministry of Management Services

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Consumer Price Index ◆ October 2004

Highlights

- BC consumers paid 2.4% more in October for the goods and services included in the CPI basket than they did a year earlier. This increase follows a 1.9% rise in year-over-year inflation recorded in September 2004. Compared to last October, Newfoundland and Labrador had the greatest increase with a 3.2% rise in prices from October 2003, while the lowest year-over-year inflation was seen in Alberta, with a 1.5% increase. Nationally, prices rose 2.3% over the same period.

- Among the metropolitan areas, Regina posted the highest increase in the CPI from last October at 3.0%, while residents of Edmonton enjoyed the lowest increase at 1.3%. Over the same period, Victoria's CPI rose 2.7%, while Vancouver's rose 2.4%.

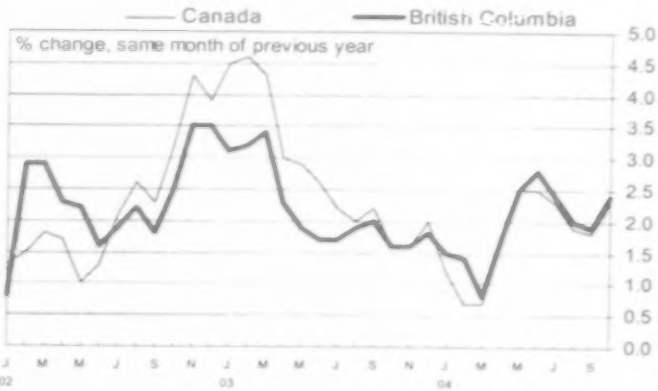
- Energy prices continue to fuel inflation. Compared to a year ago, BC residents paid significantly more for fuel oil (+30.6%), gasoline (+21.8%), education (+10.1%), meat (+9.8%), electricity (+6.9%), and fresh fruit (+6.0%). Considerable price increases were also recorded for beer (+5.4%) and cigarettes (+5.3%). Offsetting these increases were lower costs for children's clothing (-3.2%), natural gas (-3.0%), coffee and tea (-2.9%), and household furnishings (-2.8%).

- BC's CPI, excluding food and energy, was 1.4% higher than in October 2003. The comparable figure for Canada was 1.0%.

Note: Statistics Canada will release the November Consumer Price Index on December 17, 2004.

1992=100	Index	% Change from	
	October 2004	September 2004	October 2003
Canada	125.2	0.2	2.3
BC	123.5	0.0	2.4
Vancouver	124.2	0.1	2.4
Victoria	123.6	0.2	2.7
Core Canada[1]	124.7	0.0	1.4

BC and Canada Inflation on the Rise



1992=100	Latest 12-Month Average Index (ending in Oct. 2004	Latest 12-Month Average % Change	2003 Annual Average % Change
Canada	124.1	1.7	2.8
BC	122.4	1.9	2.1
Vancouver	123.0	1.9	2.0
Victoria	122.2	2.1	2.2

[1]**The Core CPI for Canada:** Defined by the Bank of Canada as the All-items index excluding the eight most volatile components (fruit, vegetables, gasoline, fuel oil, natural gas, mortgage interest, inter-city transportation and tobacco products). Also excluded is the effect of changes in indirect taxes on the remaining components.

Consumer Price Index—Terms and Definitions

Base Effect

The 12-month variation in the CPI is calculated by comparing the current month's index with the index for the same month of the previous year. The 12-month change is represented by the difference in the indexes of the reference months. Thus, the 12-month variation can decrease from one month to the next merely because the base serving as the point of comparison increased.

Source: Statistics Canada

Twelve-Month Percent Changes

Also referred to as "year-over-year", twelve-month percent changes compare indexes for a given month to indexes for the same month of the previous year. As they compare two points in time, they are influenced by unusual or temporary events that can affect either of the two months. Their calculation does not include any of the intervening monthly indexes.

Source: Statistics Canada

Annual Average Index

Annual average indexes are calculated by averaging index levels over the 12 months of the calendar year. These data should not be confused with the 12-month change in the CPI. By the nature of the calculation, averaging indexes over the calendar year gives a better representation of price behaviour over the whole year and is closer to the concept of an average price. The use of annual averages is considered the preferred option for indexation purposes.

Source: Statistics Canada

Latest Twelve-Month Average Index

The latest twelve-month average index (ending in the current month) is a 12-month moving average of the indexes of the most recent 12 months. It is calculated like the annual average index. Hence, in theory, the December twelve-month average index would be equal to the annual average index for the calendar year. However, in practice, when BC STATS makes these calculations from published data, the December 12-month average index may differ from Statistics Canada's published annual average index due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada and BC Stats

Changes to the Treatment of Rebates in the Consumer Price Index

Beginning with the Consumer Price Index for October 2003, Statistics Canada will change its treatment of rebate payments. The change will affect some types of rebate programs usually related to electricity or natural gas utilities.

Rebates will no longer be reflected in the CPI if they are paid on the basis of past consumption and were not known to consumers at the time of consumption.

To be reflected in the CPI, rebates or credits must relate to specific products and apply to all consumers (or a large proportion of consumers) of the product affected. CPI practice has been to reflect the impact of rebates at the time when rebates are paid. If a rebate was greater than the average monthly charge, the remainder of the rebate was reflected in following months until the rebate had been fully accounted for. Thus the CPI could reflect an average price close to zero for one month or several months in some situations. As a result, the treatment

of rebates has had a significant effect on the rate of change in the CPI, making the indexes for utilities particularly volatile.

The impact of the change will be to reduce short-term fluctuations in the CPI arising from rebates on past consumption. By treating retroactive rebates as windfalls to income rather than as price changes, the level of the CPI will be higher for the months that would have been affected under the past treatment of these rebates, with a corresponding impact on annual averages.

Rebate programs known to consumers at the time of purchase will continue to be accounted for in the CPI.

Source: Statistics Canada

More information about the concepts and use of the CPI is available online in the Statistics Canada publication *Your Guide to the Consumer Price Index* (www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/62-557-XIB/free.htm).

Prepared by: BC Stats, February 2004

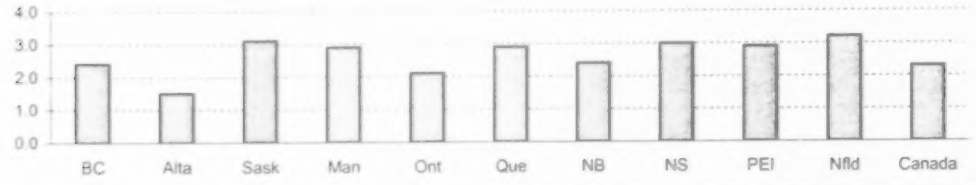
October 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

	British Columbia			Canada		
	Index October 2004	% Change September 2004	% Change October 2003	Index October 2004	% Change September 2004	% Change October 2003
All-Items Index (1992=100)	**123.5**	**0.0**	**2.4**	**125.2**	**0.2**	**2.3**
Food	**124.6**	**0.8**	**1.9**	**125.3**	**0.5**	**3.5**
Food Purchased From Stores	122.0	1.0	2.0	123.9	0.6	3.8
Meat	134.7	-0.2	9.8	137.5	-1.0	8.4
Fish & Other Seafood	122.0	-1.9	-1.5	122.0	0.2	1.1
Dairy Products & Eggs	127.0	0.2	-0.2	127.4	-0.2	2.5
Bakery & Other Cereal Products	125.1	3.0	1.5	131.5	0.9	3.5
Fruit, Fruit Preparations & Nuts	110.7	4.3	2.7	110.7	1.4	4.5
Fresh Fruit	109.8	7.8	6.0	114.6	2.8	7.6
Vegetables & Vegetable Preparations	96.4	2.4	0.5	100.2	6.4	5.0
Fresh Vegetables	92.2	4.1	-0.4	98.3	9.5	5.5
Other Food Products	125.3	-0.6	-0.5	122.4	0.1	1.1
Coffee & Tea	128.7	-1.2	-2.9	128.2	0.3	0.9
Non-Alcoholic Beverages	76.1	-1.7	0.5	99.2	-1.2	1.3
Food Purchased From Restaurants	130.2	0.2	1.5	129.3	0.3	2.6
Shelter	**107.0**	**0.4**	**2.6**	**121.8**	**0.5**	**3.0**
Rented Accommodation	115.9	0.0	0.9	118.8	0.1	0.9
Owned Accommodation	94.4	0.6	2.7	115.5	1.0	3.1
Property taxes	153.5	3.7	3.7	132.1	4.3	4.3
Water, Fuel & Electricity	154.4	0.5	5.7	151.7	-0.5	6.2
Electricity	114.4	0.4	6.9	123.8	0.3	4.5
Piped Gas	223.5	0.1	-3.0	210.0	-7.4	-1.4
Fuel Oil & Other Fuel	183.1	3.4	30.6	183.6	9.3	38.4
Household Operations & Furnishings	**121.6**	**-0.9**	**-0.7**	**115.0**	**-0.3**	**-0.1**
Household Operations	129.6	-0.5	0.4	120.3	-0.1	0.8
Household Furnishings	110.2	-1.4	-2.8	107.0	-0.6	-1.5
Clothing & Footwear	**113.9**	**0.8**	**1.2**	**105.4**	**0.5**	**0.4**
Clothing	110.7	0.3	0.8	103.4	0.6	0.2
Women's Clothing	[illegible]	0.3	1.4	104.3	-0.5	1.2
Men's Clothing	[illegible]	-0.1	1.2	104.8	1.5	-0.1
Children's Clothing	[illegible]	1.0	-3.2	95.5	2.6	-2.8
Footwear	[illegible]	4.8	3.9	104.9	1.3	-0.7
Transportation	[illegible]	**-0.1**	**5.6**	**144.6**	**0.6**	**3.5**
Private Transportation	139.7	-0.2	5.8	141.8	0.6	3.5
Operation of Motor Vehicles	152.3	0.3	10.8	160.1	2.0	8.7
Gasoline	170.5	0.8	21.8	158.4	4.8	20.3
Public Transportation	183.1	0.9	3.7	176.1	0.7	3.8
Local & Commuter	146.1	0.0	1.1	148.0	0.0	3.1
Inter-City	198.6	1.3	4.7	198.5	1.2	4.2
Health & Personal Care	**125.3**	**-0.6**	**0.9**	**119.1**	**-0.1**	**1.2**
Health Care	130.4	-0.1	2.0	125.2	0.0	2.0
Personal Care	120.1	-1.2	-0.3	114.4	-0.2	0.5
Recreation, Education & Reading	**133.7**	**-1.5**	**1.1**	**128.4**	**-0.8**	**0.1**
Recreation	117.2	-2.2	-2.0	114.3	-1.0	-1.1
Education & Reading	196.0	-0.3	8.9	181.7	-0.2	3.4
Education	208.5	-0.3	10.1	201.4	-0.2	3.7
Reading Material & Other Printed Matter	155.3	0.1	3.1	143.7	0.1	2.4
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco Products	**143.3**	**0.2**	**4.7**	**144.5**	**-0.1**	**5.5**
Alcoholic Beverages	124.2	0.1	4.1	125.9	0.2	2.9
Alcoholic Beverages Purchased from Stores	121.5	0.2	4.6	125.6	0.4	3.0
Beer Purchased from Stores	143.4	0.0	5.4	136.9	0.9	4.2
Liquor Purchased from Stores	103.9	0.1	3.2	110.4	-0.1	1.5
Tobacco Products & Smokers' Supplies	160.3	0.3	5.3	144.2	-0.2	7.5
Cigarettes	160.2	0.3	5.3	142.9	-0.3	7.4
All-Items Excluding Food	123.3	-0.2	2.5	125.3	0.2	2.1
All-Items Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	120.7	0.0	2.3	125.3	0.2	2.2
All-Items Excluding Food & Energy	120.2	-0.3	1.4	122.3	0.0	1.0

October 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

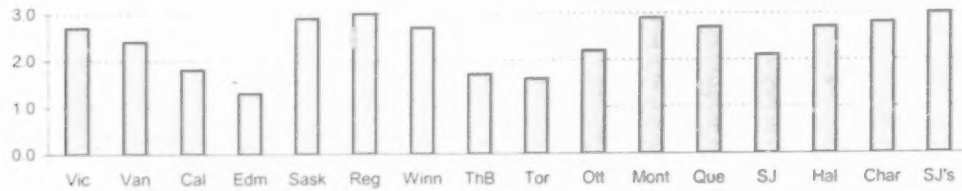
Provinces	Monthly Index	% Change		Annual Index		% Change
	October 2004	September 2004	October 2003	2003	2002	2002/03
Canada	125.2	0.2	2.3	122.3	119.0	2.8
Newfoundland & Labrador	124.2	0.3	3.2	120.7	117.3	2.9
Prince Edward Island	125.5	0.2	2.9	121.9	117.7	3.6
Nova Scotia	127.2	0.3	3.0	123.9	119.8	3.4
New Brunswick	125.1	0.3	2.4	122.6	118.6	3.4
Quebec	121.7	0.6	2.9	118.4	115.5	2.5
Ontario	126.2	0.3	2.1	123.3	120.1	2.7
Manitoba	128.7	0.4	2.9	125.3	123.1	1.8
Saskatchewan	130.5	0.6	3.1	126.5	123.7	2.3
Alberta	131.6	-0.3	1.5	129.7	124.2	4.4
British Columbia	**123.5**	**0.0**	**2.4**	**120.4**	**117.9**	**2.1**
Whitehorse	121.8	0.2	1.8	119.9	117.7	1.9
Yellowknife	118.9	0.1	1.5	118.4	116.3	1.8
Iqaluit (Dec. 2002=100)	101.2	-0.4	0.7	100.2	n/a	n/a

CPI - Per Cent Change from Same Month of Previous Year



Metropolitan Areas	Monthly Index	% Change		Annual Index		% Change
	October 2004	September 2004	October 2003	2003	2002	2002/03
St. John's	124.0	0.3	3.0	120.6	117.3	2.8
Charlottetown	124.5	0.2	2.8	120.9	117.1	3.2
Halifax	126.1	0.3	2.7	122.9	119.1	3.2
Saint John	124.7	0.4	2.1	122.2	118.2	3.4
Quebec City	122.3	0.5	2.7	119.1	116.2	2.5
Montreal	121.8	0.6	2.9	118.4	115.7	2.3
Ottawa	127.9	0.3	2.2	124.9	121.9	2.5
Toronto	126.5	0.0	1.6	124.2	120.6	3.0
Thunder Bay	124.2	0.3	1.7	122.1	119.3	2.3
Winnipeg	128.8	0.5	2.7	125.5	123.3	1.8
Regina	131.4	0.5	3.0	127.5	124.6	2.3
Saskatoon	129.6	0.7	2.9	125.8	123.1	2.2
Edmonton	129.8	0.5	1.3	128.4	121.9	5.3
Calgary	132.6	-0.2	1.8	130.2	125.8	3.5
Vancouver	**124.2**	**0.1**	**2.4**	**121.0**	**118.6**	**2.0**
Victoria	**123.6**	**0.0**	**2.7**	**120.0**	**117.4**	**2.2**

CPI - Per Cent Change from Same Month of Previous Year



Source: Statistics Canada

Produced by: BC Stats

October 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

British Columbia

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average	Food	Shelter	Household Operation	Clothing Footwear	Trans-portation	Health & Personal	Recreation Education	Alcohol Tobacco
2000	113.3	1.9	113.0	99.6	116.9	112.1	130.0	116.7	121.2	109.7
2001	115.2	1.7	117.4	101.2	118.0	112.6	130.5	119.7	122.6	112.3
2002	117.9	2.3	120.6	101.9	121.0	112.6	135.0	121.9	124.7	126.7
2003	120.4	2.1	122.8	103.7	122.3	111.4	139.3	122.8	129.0	136.0
2003		Month / Year								
Jan	119.0	0.2 / 3.1	122.1	102.7	121.3	110.3	138.0	122.8	125.1	132.2
Feb	119.6	0.5 / 3.2	121.1	102.9	122.3	112.0	140.3	122.7	126.0	134.0
Mar	120.6	0.8 / 3.4	122.3	103.2	122.1	113.8	143.2	121.8	126.9	135.2
Apr	120.4	-0.2 / 2.3	122.7	103.6	121.7	113.5	140.7	122.6	126.9	135.3
May	120.4	0.0 / 1.9	123.3	103.8	121.9	112.1	138.7	121.9	128.7	136.3
Jun	120.2	-0.2 / 1.7	123.3	103.8	122.0	110.4	138.2	121.7	128.4	136.4
Jul	120.5	0.2 / 1.7	123.3	103.8	122.3	111.4	138.6	122.2	129.5	136.4
Aug	120.9	0.3 / 1.9	123.3	103.9	122.4	109.4	141.0	123.5	129.6	136.8
Sep	121.2	0.2 / 2.0	122.4	103.7	123.1	113.0	139.9	123.9	133.6	137.0
Oct	120.6	-0.5 / 1.6	122.3	104.3	122.5	112.5	136.3	124.2	132.3	136.9
Nov	120.8	0.2 / 1.6	123.5	104.2	122.7	110.1	138.2	123.3	130.9	137.0
Dec	120.9	0.1 / 1.8	124.4	104.5	122.7	108.8	138.1	122.6	130.3	138.5
2004										
Jan	120.8	-0.1 / 1.5	124.1	104.4	122.6	109.2	138.4	122.8	128.7	140.9
Feb	121.3	0.4 / 1.4	123.2	104.7	123.3	112.3	138.9	123.4	130.0	142.9
Mar	121.6	0.2 / 0.8	123.5	104.6	123.6	112.9	140.2	123.7	130.5	142.9
Apr	122.4	0.7 / 1.7	123.7	105.7	123.9	111.3	142.4	125.1	130.4	143.1
May	123.4	0.8 / 2.5	124.1	105.8	123.8	112.6	146.3	125.3	132.5	143.5
Jun	123.6	0.2 / 2.8	125.5	105.9	122.9	111.5	146.3	124.9	133.4	143.4
Jul	123.4	-0.2 / 2.4	124.7	106.1	123.1	112.2	144.8	125.5	133.5	142.7
Aug	123.3	-0.1 / 2.0	124.3	106.2	123.1	111.6	145.1	125.4	133.3	142.9
Sep	123.5	0.2 / 1.9	123.6	106.6	122.7	113.0	144.0	126.0	135.8	143.0
Oct	123.5	0.0 / 2.4	124.6	107.0	121.6	113.9	143.9	125.3	133.7	143.3

Canada

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average	Food	Shelter	Household Operation	Clothing Footwear	Trans-portation	Health & Personal	Recreation Education	Alcohol Tobacco
2000	113.5	2.7	112.2	108.8	110.0	105.5	130.7	112.0	122.5	97.6
2001	116.4	2.6	117.2	112.8	112.2	106.0	130.8	114.2	124.3	105.1
2002	119.0	2.2	120.3	113.8	113.8	105.2	134.4	115.5	126.3	123.6
2003	122.3	2.8	122.4	117.5	114.6	103.3	141.4	117.0	127.3	136.0
2003		Month / Year								
Jan	121.4	0.8 / 4.5	122.3	116.2	113.9	101.6	141.9	116.1	125.4	132.0
Feb	122.3	0.7 / 4.6	122.1	116.7	114.5	103.8	144.1	116.4	127.1	133.5
Mar	122.8	0.4 / 4.3	122.4	117.4	114.5	105.5	144.6	116.1	126.7	133.8
Apr	121.9	-0.7 / 3.0	122.4	116.5	114.5	103.8	141.8	116.8	126.3	134.5
May	122.0	0.1 / 2.9	122.8	117.1	114.5	103.4	139.8	117.1	127.2	136.2
Jun	122.1	0.1 / 2.6	123.2	117.7	114.5	101.0	139.5	116.8	127.6	136.4
Jul	122.2	0.1 / 2.2	123.2	117.6	114.6	101.6	139.9	116.9	127.9	136.6
Aug	122.5	0.2 / 2.0	122.1	117.7	114.7	101.8	142.4	117.4	128.0	137.1
Sep	122.7	0.2 / 2.2	121.3	117.9	115.1	105.0	141.9	117.6	128.9	137.1
Oct	122.4	-0.2 / 1.6	121.1	118.2	115.1	105.0	139.7	117.7	128.3	137.0
Nov	122.7	0.2 / 1.6	122.3	118.3	114.9	104.2	140.9	118.0	127.5	137.6
Dec	122.8	0.1 / 2.0	123.4	118.8	114.9	102.5	140.8	117.6	126.5	140.1
2004										
Jan	122.9	0.1 / 1.2	123.7	118.7	114.9	102.3	142.2	117.7	125.3	140.8
Feb	123.2	0.2 / 0.7	123.4	119.0	115.2	104.0	141.9	117.7	126.6	141.1
Mar	123.6	0.3 / 0.7	123.6	119.0	115.3	105.3	142.8	118.3	127.3	141.3
Apr	123.9	0.2 / 1.6	123.4	119.6	115.6	103.8	143.5	119.0	127.1	142.2
May	125.0	0.9 / 2.5	124.4	119.8	115.4	102.8	148.2	119.0	128.4	143.4
Jun	125.1	0.1 / 2.5	125.6	120.3	115.0	101.9	147.1	119.1	128.5	144.0
Jul	125.0	-0.1 / 2.3	125.6	120.6	114.9	100.9	146.2	119.2	128.9	144.2
Aug	124.8	-0.2 / 1.9	125.3	120.9	115.0	101.8	144.7	118.8	128.6	144.7
Sep	124.9	0.1 / 1.8	124.7	121.2	115.4	104.9	143.7	119.2	129.4	144.6
Oct	125.2	0.2 / 2.3	125.3	121.8	115.0	105.4	144.6	119.1	128.4	144.5

October 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

BRITISH COLUMBIA		Rented Accom-modation	Owned Accom-modation	Energy for Dwellings			Motor Gasoline	Energy*	All Items Excluding Food	All Items Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	All Items Excluding Food & Energy
				Piped Gas	Fuel Oil/ Other Fuel	Electricity[1]					
	2000	110.7	89.0	167.4	137.6	105.7	134.3	130.8	113.4	111.5	111.9
	2001	111.9	89.7	222.9	141.0	91.9	134.3	134.3	114.7	113.3	113.0
	2002	113.5	89.7	198.6	131.6	106.3	135.7	135.9	117.3	115.5	115.7
	2003	114.7	91.3	223.7	151.0	106.9	148.4	144.9	119.9	117.8	117.8
2003	Jan	114.2	90.5	202.7	143.4	106.8	141.6	139.8	118.4	116.5	116.5
	Feb	114.3	90.6	202.7	150.5	106.8	154.0	146.1	119.3	117.0	117.0
	Mar	114.4	90.8	205.7	178.6	106.8	167.4	153.5	120.2	118.0	117.4
	Apr	114.5	91.0	230.3	165.0	106.8	153.1	147.9	119.9	117.8	117.5
	May	114.5	91.3	230.3	149.8	106.8	142.0	142.1	119.8	117.7	117.8
	Jun	114.6	91.3	230.3	149.8	106.8	142.2	142.2	119.6	117.6	117.6
	Jul	114.7	91.3	230.3	149.8	107.0	144.0	143.2	119.9	117.8	117.9
	Aug	114.7	91.3	230.3	149.8	107.0	160.0	151.0	120.4	118.2	117.8
	Sep	114.8	91.1	230.3	151.1	107.0	157.3	149.8	121.0	118.6	118.5
	Oct	114.9	91.9	230.3	140.2	107.0	140.0	141.0	120.3	118.0	118.5
	Nov	115.0	91.8	230.3	138.6	107.0	141.1	141.6	120.3	118.1	118.4
	Dec	115.2	92.1	230.3	145.4	107.0	138.5	140.4	120.2	118.2	118.4
2004	Jan	115.3	92.0	215.9	150.0	107.0	141.1	140.8	120.1	118.0	118.2
	Feb	115.4	92.3	215.9	153.1	107.0	150.2	145.3	120.9	118.4	118.8
	Mar	115.5	92.2	215.9	162.8	107.0	156.1	148.5	121.2	118.8	118.9
	Apr	115.8	92.9	215.9	160.0	114.0	163.8	155.3	122.1	119.6	119.3
	May	115.8	93.0	215.9	171.3	114.0	180.9	164.0	123.3	120.6	119.9
	Jun	115.8	93.1	215.9	171.3	114.0	179.7	163.4	123.2	120.8	119.9
	Jul	115.8	93.2	223.2	171.3	114.0	169.4	158.9	123.1	120.6	120.2
	Aug	115.9	93.4	223.2	171.3	114.0	170.9	159.6	123.1	120.5	120.1
	Sep	115.9	93.8	223.2	177.1	114.0	169.2	158.9	123.5	120.7	120.6
	Oct	115.9	94.4	223.5	183.1	114.4	170.5	159.9	123.3	120.7	120.2

[1] electricity figure for 2001 reflects BC Hydro rebates in February and March

CANADA		Rented Accom-modation	Owned Accom-modation	Energy for Dwellings			Motor Gasoline	Energy*	All Items Excluding Food	All Items Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	All Items Excluding Food & Energy
				Piped Gas	Fuel Oil/ Other Fuel	Electricity					
	2000	111.5	102.9	158.9	143.2	109.2	131.7	128.1	113.9	115.0	112.2
	2001	113.3	105.9	206.0	143.5	111.1	128.3	132.3	116.3	117.7	114.4
	2002	115.5	107.6	168.7	131.8	119.6	127.2	129.6	118.8	119.6	117.5
	2003	117.2	110.9	219.5	151.5	117.2	135.4	139.9	122.4	122.5	120.5
2003	Jan	116.6	109.4	201.3	158.1	118.4	138.0	140.4	121.3	121.7	119.2
	Feb	116.7	109.7	203.5	176.9	118.4	147.7	146.5	122.4	122.6	119.9
	Mar	116.8	110.0	218.1	198.9	118.3	149.1	149.5	122.9	123.1	120.2
	Apr	116.9	110.3	230.3	163.0	106.3	135.7	137.4	121.9	122.2	120.2
	May	117.0	110.6	210.2	143.7	117.9	126.4	134.4	121.9	122.2	120.4
	Jun	117.1	110.9	228.3	143.7	119.0	127.9	137.0	121.9	122.3	120.2
	Jul	117.2	110.9	226.2	143.7	117.9	130.3	137.6	122.0	122.4	120.3
	Aug	117.4	110.9	223.6	143.7	118.3	142.0	143.5	122.7	122.7	120.5
	Sep	117.5	111.1	232.2	138.0	118.2	141.0	143.4	123.1	122.9	120.9
	Oct	117.7	112.0	213.0	132.7	118.5	131.7	137.0	122.7	122.6	121.1
	Nov	117.8	112.1	221.7	135.8	117.1	127.9	135.4	122.8	122.9	121.4
	Dec	117.9	112.4	225.6	140.3	118.5	127.3	136.2	122.7	122.9	121.2
2004	Jan	118.0	112.5	204.7	154.3	118.5	134.6	138.9	122.8	123.0	121.1
	Feb	118.0	112.7	208.6	160.3	118.6	139.2	141.9	123.2	123.3	121.2
	Mar	118.1	112.8	203.3	160.5	118.5	142.9	143.3	123.7	123.7	121.6
	Apr	118.2	113.1	209.9	156.8	122.4	145.0	146.2	124.0	123.9	121.7
	May	118.3	113.3	209.1	159.1	122.4	164.7	156.2	125.1	125.1	122.0
	Jun	118.4	113.5	225.9	159.1	122.4	159.2	154.8	125.0	125.1	122.0
	Jul	118.4	113.9	225.5	159.1	123.3	153.6	152.3	124.9	125.0	122.2
	Aug	118.7	114.1	228.9	159.1	123.4	153.1	152.4	124.7	124.8	121.9
	Sep	118.7	114.4	226.8	168.0	123.4	151.2	151.7	125.0	125.0	122.3
	Oct	118.8	115.5	210.0	183.6	123.8	158.4	154.9	125.3	125.3	122.3

** Energy includes Piped Gas, Fuel Oil/Other Fuel, Electricity, and Motor Gasoline*

Source: Statistics Canada

Produced by: BC Stats

October 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

Vancouver

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average		Shelter	Accommodation Rented	Accommodation Owned	Water, Fuel Electricity
2000	113.9	2.2		100.8	110.2	90.6	135.7
2001	116.0	1.8		103.3	111.5	91.4	153.0
2002	118.6	2.2		103.4	113.1	91.3	150.0
2003	121.0	2.0		105.0	114.4	92.6	154.6
2003		Month	Year				
Jan	119.7	0.2	2.9	104.1	113.9	91.8	150.7
Feb	120.3	0.5	3.2	104.2	114.0	92.0	150.8
Mar	121.2	0.7	3.2	104.6	114.1	92.4	151.5
Apr	121.0	-0.2	2.2	105.1	114.3	92.5	155.9
May	120.9	-0.1	1.6	105.2	114.3	92.7	155.7
Jun	120.8	-0.1	1.5	105.2	114.4	92.8	155.7
Jul	120.9	0.1	1.4	105.2	114.4	92.7	155.7
Aug	121.5	0.5	1.8	105.1	114.5	92.6	155.7
Sep	121.8	0.2	1.8	105.0	114.7	92.3	155.8
Oct	121.3	-0.4	1.4	105.5	114.8	93.0	155.7
Nov	121.4	0.1	1.4	105.5	114.8	92.9	155.7
Dec	121.6	0.2	1.8	105.7	115.0	93.2	155.8
2004							
Jan	121.3	-0.2	1.3	105.5	115.2	93.0	154.0
Feb	121.8	0.4	1.2	105.9	115.3	93.6	154.1
Mar	122.2	0.3	0.8	105.8	115.4	93.4	154.2
Apr	123.0	0.7	1.7	106.9	115.6	94.0	161.5
May	124.0	0.8	2.6	106.9	115.7	94.0	161.7
Jun	124.1	0.1	2.7	107.0	115.7	94.1	161.7
Jul	123.9	-0.2	2.5	107.1	115.7	94.2	163.1
Aug	124.0	0.1	2.1	107.2	115.7	94.3	163.1
Sep	124.1	0.1	1.9	107.5	115.7	94.6	163.0
Oct	124.2	0.1	2.4	108.0	115.8	95.2	163.6

Victoria

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average		Shelter	Accommodation Rented	Accommodation Owned	Water, Fuel Electricity
2000	113.0	1.7		99.2	110.5	89.1	118.8
2001	114.3	1.2		98.9	111.4	89.8	110.3
2002	117.4	2.7		100.8	113.2	90.2	120.5
2003	120.0	2.2		102.9	114.3	92.3	124.6
2003		Month	Year				
Jan	118.7	0.3	3.3	101.9	114.0	91.2	123.2
Feb	119.2	0.4	3.3	102.1	114.0	91.3	123.8
Mar	120.1	0.8	3.4	102.5	114.1	91.4	128.4
Apr	119.9	-0.2	2.4	102.6	114.2	91.7	127.1
May	119.9	0.0	2.0	102.8	114.1	92.2	124.6
Jun	119.7	-0.2	1.6	102.8	114.1	92.1	124.6
Jul	120.1	0.3	1.7	103.0	114.2	92.4	124.9
Aug	120.5	0.3	1.9	103.2	114.3	92.6	124.9
Sep	120.8	0.2	2.0	102.8	114.4	92.1	124.6
Oct	120.4	-0.3	1.8	103.7	114.6	93.4	122.9
Nov	120.5	0.1	1.6	103.5	114.7	93.2	122.9
Dec	120.7	0.2	1.9	103.9	114.9	93.6	123.7
2004							
Jan	120.6	-0.1	1.6	104.0	114.9	93.5	125.5
Feb	121.0	0.3	1.5	104.2	114.9	93.7	126.0
Mar	121.3	0.2	1.0	104.2	115.0	93.4	127.8
Apr	122.2	0.7	1.9	105.6	115.2	94.5	133.2
May	123.2	0.8	2.8	105.9	115.3	94.7	135.0
Jun	123.5	0.2	3.2	106.0	115.3	94.9	135.0
Jul	123.3	-0.2	2.7	106.2	115.3	95.1	135.2
Aug	123.3	0.0	2.3	106.3	115.5	95.2	135.2
Sep	123.6	0.2	2.3	106.8	115.5	95.9	135.1
Oct	123.6	0.0	2.7	107.4	115.4	96.4	137.3

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December 17, 2004
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Consumer Price Index ◆ November 2004

Highlights

- BC's year-over-year inflation, as measured by the Consumer Price Index, was 2.4% for the second consecutive month. Prince Edward Island reported the greatest increase in its CPI from last November at 3.9%, while Alberta continues to have the lowest year-over-year inflation among the provinces at 1.9%. Nationally, prices rose 2.4% from November 2003.

- Among the metropolitan areas, Charlottetown posted the highest increase in the CPI from last November at 3.6%, while residents of Toronto enjoyed the lowest increase at 1.5%. Over the same period, Victoria's CPI rose 2.7%, while Vancouver's rose 2.3%.

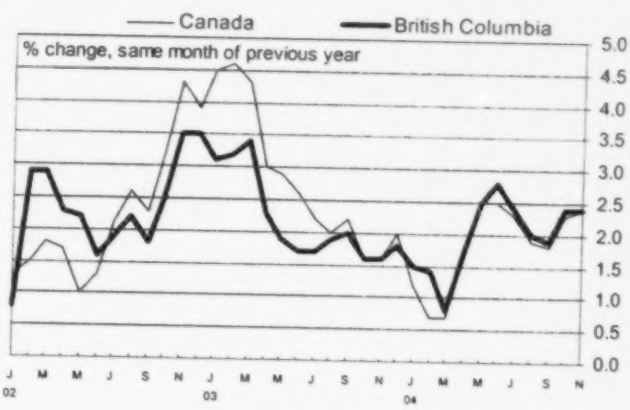
- Energy prices continue to climb as BC residents paid significantly more for fuel oil (+30.3%), gasoline (+15.2%) and electricity (+6.9%) compared to November 2003. Significant price increases were also recorded for education (10.1%), fresh vegetables (+6.4%), women's clothing (+6.3%), inter-city transportation (+5.8%), beer (+5.4%), meat (+4.9%) and cigarettes (+4.6%). Tempering these increases were lower costs for fish and seafood (-4.0%), coffee and tea (-3.4%), natural gas (-3.0%), and household furnishings (-2.9%).

- BC's CPI, excluding food and energy, was 1.9% higher than in November 2003. The comparable figure for Canada was 1.2%.

Note: Statistics Canada will release the December Consumer Price Index on January 19, 2005.

1992=100	Index	% Change from	
	November 2004	October 2004	November 2003
Canada	125.7	0.4	2.4
BC	123.7	0.2	2.4
Vancouver	124.2	0.0	2.3
Victoria	123.8	0.2	2.7
Core Canada[1]	125.3	0.5	1.6

BC and Canada Inflation Equal



1992=100	Latest 12-Month Average Index (ending in Nov. 2004	Latest 12-Month Average % Change	2003 Annual Average % Change
Canada	124.3	1.8	2.8
BC	122.6	2.0	2.1
Vancouver	123.2	1.9	2.0
Victoria	122.5	2.2	2.2

[1]**The Core CPI for Canada:** Defined by the Bank of Canada as the All-items index excluding the eight most volatile components (fruit, vegetables, gasoline, fuel oil, natural gas, mortgage interest, inter-city transportation and tobacco products). Also excluded is the effect of changes in indirect taxes on the remaining components.

Consumer Price Index—Terms and Definitions

Base Effect

The 12-month variation in the CPI is calculated by comparing the current month's index with the index for the same month of the previous year. The 12-month change is represented by the difference in the indexes of the reference months. Thus, the 12-month variation can decrease from one month to the next merely because the base serving as the point of comparison increased.

Source: Statistics Canada

Twelve-Month Percent Changes

Also referred to as "year-over-year", twelve-month percent changes compare indexes for a given month to indexes for the same month of the previous year. As they compare two points in time, they are influenced by unusual or temporary events that can affect either of the two months. Their calculation does not include any of the intervening monthly indexes.

Source: Statistics Canada

Annual Average Index

Annual average indexes are calculated by averaging index levels over the 12 months of the calendar year. These data should not be confused with the 12-month change in the CPI. By the nature of the calculation, averaging indexes over the calendar year gives a better representation of price behaviour over the whole year and is closer to the concept of an average price. The use of annual averages is considered the preferred option for indexation purposes.

Source: Statistics Canada

Latest Twelve-Month Average Index

The latest twelve-month average index (ending in the current month) is a 12-month moving average of the indexes of the most recent 12 months. It is calculated like the annual average index. Hence, in theory, the December twelve-month average index would be equal to the annual average index for the calendar year. However, in practice, when BC STATS makes these calculations from published data, the December 12-month average index may differ from Statistics Canada's published annual average index due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada and BC Stats

Changes to the Treatment of Rebates in the Consumer Price Index

Beginning with the Consumer Price Index for October 2003, Statistics Canada will change its treatment of rebate payments. The change will affect some types of rebate programs usually related to electricity or natural gas utilities.

Rebates will no longer be reflected in the CPI if they are paid on the basis of past consumption and were not known to consumers at the time of consumption.

To be reflected in the CPI, rebates or credits must relate to specific products and apply to all consumers (or a large proportion of consumers) of the product affected. CPI practice has been to reflect the impact of rebates at the time when rebates are paid. If a rebate was greater than the average monthly charge, the remainder of the rebate was reflected in following months until the rebate had been fully accounted for. Thus the CPI could reflect an average price close to zero for one month or several months in some situations. As a result, the treatment

of rebates has had a significant effect on the rate of change in the CPI, making the indexes for utilities particularly volatile.

The impact of the change will be to reduce short-term fluctuations in the CPI arising from rebates on past consumption. By treating retroactive rebates as windfalls to income rather than as price changes, the level of the CPI will be higher for the months that would have been affected under the past treatment of these rebates, with a corresponding impact on annual averages.

Rebate programs known to consumers at the time of purchase will continue to be accounted for in the CPI.

Source: Statistics Canada

More information about the concepts and use of the CPI is available online in the Statistics Canada publication *Your Guide to the Consumer Price Index* (www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/62-557-XIB/free.htm).

Prepared by: BC Stats, February 2004

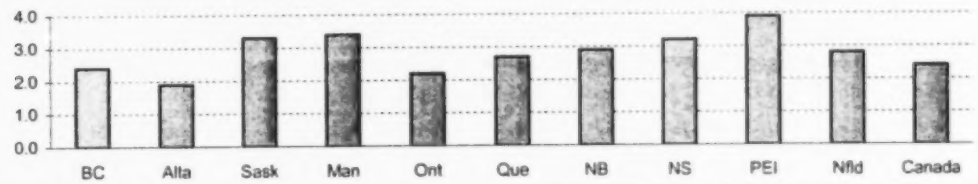
November 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

	British Columbia			Canada		
	Index	% Change		Index	% Change	
	November	October	November	November	October	November
	2004	2004	2003	2004	2004	2003
All-Items Index (1992=100)	**123.7**	**0.2**	**2.4**	**125.7**	**0.4**	**2.4**
Food	**125.5**	**0.7**	**1.6**	**126.6**	**1.0**	**3.5**
Food Purchased From Stores	123.4	1.1	1.9	125.6	1.4	3.8
Meat	133.9	-0.6	4.9	136.6	-0.7	4.8
Fish & Other Seafood	122.6	0.5	-4.0	121.2	-0.7	0.5
Dairy Products & Eggs	126.6	-0.3	-0.5	127.8	0.3	2.7
Bakery & Other Cereal Products	125.1	0.0	2.0	131.9	0.3	3.5
Fruit, Fruit Preparations & Nuts	111.4	0.6	2.3	110.8	0.1	3.9
Fresh Fruit	109.3	-0.5	3.8	114.2	-0.3	5.5
Vegetables & Vegetable Preparations	105.6	9.5	5.4	114.8	14.6	10.2
Fresh Vegetables	103.0	11.7	6.4	116.8	18.8	12.9
Other Food Products	126.2	0.7	0.2	122.9	0.4	1.8
Coffee & Tea	129.8	0.9	-3.4	128.4	0.2	0.9
Non-Alcoholic Beverages	76.4	0.4	0.4	99.6	0.4	2.3
Food Purchased From Restaurants	130.4	0.2	1.4	129.8	0.4	2.9
Shelter	**107.2**	**0.2**	**2.9**	**122.2**	**0.3**	**3.3**
Rented Accommodation	116.0	0.1	0.9	118.9	0.1	0.9
Owned Accommodation	94.5	0.1	2.9	115.8	0.3	3.3
Property taxes	153.5	0.0	3.7	132.1	0.0	4.3
Water, Fuel & Electricity	154.7	0.2	5.9	153.2	1.0	6.8
Electricity	114.4	0.0	6.9	123.8	0.0	5.7
Piped Gas	223.5	0.0	-3.0	213.5	1.7	-3.7
Fuel Oil & Other Fuel	188.9	3.2	36.3	193.7	5.5	42.6
Household Operations & Furnishings	**121.8**	**0.2**	**-0.7**	**115.1**	**0.1**	**0.2**
Household Operations	129.8	0.2	0.4	120.6	0.2	1.0
Household Furnishings	110.3	0.1	-2.9	106.8	-0.2	-1.2
Clothing & Footwear	**113.9**	**0.0**	**3.5**	**103.2**	**-2.1**	**-1.0**
Clothing	110.7	0.0	3.2	100.1	-3.2	-1.9
Women's Clothing	113.1	0.8	6.3	99.9	-4.4	-1.7
Men's Clothing	112.0	-1.1	0.6	102.5	-2.2	-1.8
Children's Clothing	98.2	1.2	-1.0	93.8	-1.8	-2.9
Footwear	113.4	-1.0	2.3	104.0	-0.9	-1.5
Transportation	**144.5**	**0.4**	**4.6**	**146.7**	**1.5**	**4.1**
Private Transportation	140.9	0.9	4.6	144.3	1.8	4.1
Operation of Motor Vehicles	149.6	-1.8	8.3	157.1	-1.9	7.5
Gasoline	162.6	-4.6	15.2	150.5	-5.0	17.7
Public Transportation	177.7	-2.9	4.5	173.0	-1.8	4.4
Local & Commuter	146.1	0.0	1.1	148.0	0.0	2.2
Inter-City	190.6	-4.0	5.8	192.9	-2.8	5.8
Health & Personal Care	**125.9**	**0.5**	**2.1**	**118.8**	**-0.3**	**0.7**
Health Care	130.5	0.1	1.8	125.1	-0.1	2.0
Personal Care	121.3	1.0	2.5	113.8	-0.5	-0.7
Recreation, Education & Reading	**132.7**	**-0.7**	**1.4**	**127.4**	**-0.8**	**-0.1**
Recreation	115.9	-1.1	-1.7	113.1	-1.0	-1.3
Education & Reading	196.0	0.0	8.9	181.9	0.1	3.5
Education	208.5	0.0	10.1	201.4	0.0	3.7
Reading Material & Other Printed Matter	155.3	0.0	3.1	144.3	0.4	2.8
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco Products	**142.8**	**-0.3**	**4.2**	**144.7**	**0.1**	**5.2**
Alcoholic Beverages	124.2	0.0	3.8	126.3	0.3	2.9
Alcoholic Beverages Purchased from Stores	121.3	-0.2	4.5	125.8	0.2	2.9
Beer Purchased from Stores	143.4	0.0	5.4	137.4	0.4	3.9
Liquor Purchased from Stores	103.9	0.0	4.1	110.4	0.0	1.6
Tobacco Products & Smokers' Supplies	159.2	-0.7	4.6	144.2	0.0	6.9
Cigarettes	159.1	-0.7	4.6	142.9	0.0	6.9
All-Items Excluding Food	123.3	0.0	2.5	125.5	0.2	2.2
All-Items Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	120.9	0.2	2.4	125.7	0.3	2.3
All-Items Excluding Food & Energy	120.6	0.3	1.9	122.9	0.5	1.2

November 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

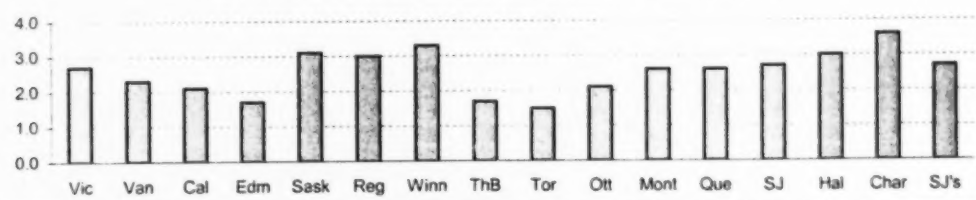
Provinces	Monthly Index	% Change		Annual Index		% Change
	November 2004	October 2004	November 2003	2003	2002	2002/03
Canada	125.7	0.4	2.4	122.3	119.0	2.8
Newfoundland & Labrador	124.5	0.2	2.8	120.7	117.3	2.9
Prince Edward Island	127.3	1.4	3.9	121.9	117.7	3.6
Nova Scotia	127.8	0.5	3.2	123.9	119.8	3.4
New Brunswick	125.7	0.5	2.9	122.6	118.6	3.4
Quebec	121.8	0.1	2.7	118.4	115.5	2.5
Ontario	126.6	0.3	2.2	123.3	120.1	2.7
Manitoba	129.5	0.6	3.4	125.3	123.1	1.8
Saskatchewan	131.3	0.6	3.3	126.5	123.7	2.3
Alberta	132.5	0.7	1.9	129.7	124.2	4.4
British Columbia	**123.7**	**0.2**	**2.4**	**120.4**	**117.9**	**2.1**
Whitehorse	123.1	1.1	3.6	119.9	117.7	1.9
Yellowknife	120.0	0.9	1.6	118.4	116.3	1.8
Iqaluit (Dec. 2002=100)	101.8	0.6	1.1	100.2	n/a	n/a

CPI - Per Cent Change from Same Month of Previous Year



Metropolitan Areas	Monthly Index	% Change		Annual Index		% Change
	November 2004	October 2004	November 2003	2003	2002	2002/03
St. John's	124.3	0.2	2.7	120.6	117.3	2.8
Charlottetown	126.0	1.2	3.6	120.9	117.1	3.2
Halifax	126.7	0.5	3.0	122.9	119.1	3.2
Saint John	125.3	0.5	2.7	122.2	118.2	3.4
Quebec City	122.5	0.2	2.6	119.1	116.2	2.5
Montreal	121.8	0.0	2.6	118.4	115.7	2.3
Ottawa	128.3	0.3	2.1	124.9	121.9	2.5
Toronto	126.9	0.3	1.5	124.2	120.6	3.0
Thunder Bay	124.5	0.2	1.7	122.1	119.3	2.3
Winnipeg	129.6	0.6	3.3	125.5	123.3	1.8
Regina	132.0	0.5	3.0	127.5	124.6	2.3
Saskatoon	130.3	0.5	3.1	125.8	123.1	2.2
Edmonton	130.7	0.7	1.7	128.4	121.9	5.3
Calgary	133.5	0.7	2.1	130.2	125.8	3.5
Vancouver	**124.2**	**0.0**	**2.3**	**121.0**	**118.6**	**2.0**
Victoria	**123.8**	**0.2**	**2.7**	**120.0**	**117.4**	**2.2**

CPI - Per Cent Change from Same Month of Previous Year



Source: Statistics Canada

Produced by: BC Stats

November 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

British Columbia

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average	Food	Shelter	Household Operation	Clothing Footwear	Trans-portation	Health & Personal	Recreation Education	Alcohol Tobacco
2000	113.3	1.9	113.0	99.6	116.9	112.1	130.0	116.7	121.2	109.7
2001	115.2	1.7	117.4	101.2	118.0	112.6	130.5	119.7	122.6	112.3
2002	117.9	2.3	120.6	101.9	121.0	112.6	135.0	121.9	124.7	126.7
2003	120.4	2.1	122.8	103.7	122.3	111.4	139.3	122.8	129.0	136.0
2003		Month / Year								
Jan	119.0	0.2 / 3.1	122.1	102.7	121.3	110.3	138.0	122.8	125.1	132.2
Feb	119.6	0.5 / 3.2	121.1	102.9	122.3	112.0	140.3	122.7	126.0	134.0
Mar	120.6	0.8 / 3.4	122.3	103.2	122.1	113.8	143.2	121.8	126.9	135.2
Apr	120.4	-0.2 / 2.3	122.7	103.6	121.7	113.5	140.7	122.6	126.9	135.3
May	120.4	0.0 / 1.9	123.3	103.8	121.9	112.1	138.7	121.9	128.7	136.3
Jun	120.2	-0.2 / 1.7	123.3	103.8	122.0	110.4	138.2	121.7	128.4	136.4
Jul	120.5	0.2 / 1.7	123.3	103.8	122.3	111.4	138.6	122.2	129.5	136.4
Aug	120.9	0.3 / 1.9	123.3	103.9	122.4	109.4	141.0	123.5	129.6	136.8
Sep	121.2	0.2 / 2.0	122.4	103.7	123.1	113.0	139.9	123.9	133.6	137.0
Oct	120.6	-0.5 / 1.6	122.3	104.3	122.5	112.5	136.3	124.2	132.3	136.9
Nov	120.8	0.2 / 1.6	123.5	104.2	122.7	110.1	138.2	123.3	130.9	137.0
Dec	120.9	0.1 / 1.8	124.4	104.5	122.7	108.8	138.1	122.6	130.3	138.5
2004										
Jan	120.8	-0.1 / 1.5	124.1	104.4	122.6	109.2	138.4	122.8	128.7	140.9
Feb	121.3	0.4 / 1.4	123.2	104.7	123.3	112.3	138.9	123.4	130.0	142.9
Mar	121.6	0.2 / 0.8	123.5	104.6	123.6	112.9	140.2	123.7	130.5	142.9
Apr	122.4	0.7 / 1.7	123.7	105.7	123.9	111.3	142.4	125.1	130.4	143.1
May	123.4	0.8 / 2.5	124.1	105.8	123.8	112.6	146.3	125.3	132.5	143.5
Jun	123.6	0.2 / 2.8	125.5	105.9	122.9	111.5	146.3	124.9	133.4	143.4
Jul	123.4	-0.2 / 2.4	124.7	106.1	123.1	112.2	144.8	125.5	133.5	142.7
Aug	123.3	-0.1 / 2.0	124.3	106.2	123.1	111.6	145.1	125.4	133.3	142.9
Sep	123.5	0.2 / 1.9	123.6	106.6	122.7	113.0	144.0	126.0	135.8	143.0
Oct	123.5	0.0 / 2.4	124.6	107.0	121.6	113.9	143.9	125.3	133.7	143.3
Nov	123.7	0.2 / 2.4	125.5	107.2	121.8	113.9	144.5	125.9	132.7	142.8

Canada

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average	Food	Shelter	Household Operation	Clothing Footwear	Trans-portation	Health & Personal	Recreation Education	Alcohol Tobacco
2000	113.5	2.7	112.2	108.8	110.0	105.5	130.7	112.0	122.5	97.6
2001	116.4	2.6	117.2	112.8	112.2	106.0	130.8	114.2	124.3	105.1
2002	119.0	2.2	120.3	113.9	113.8	105.2	134.4	115.5	126.3	123.6
2003	122.3	2.8	122.4	117.5	114.6	103.3	141.4	117.0	127.3	136.0
2003		Month / Year								
Jan	121.4	0.8 / 4.5	122.3	116.2	113.9	101.6	141.9	116.1	125.4	132.0
Feb	122.3	0.7 / 4.6	122.1	116.7	114.5	103.8	144.1	116.4	127.1	133.5
Mar	122.8	0.4 / 4.3	122.4	117.4	114.5	105.5	144.6	116.1	126.7	133.8
Apr	121.9	-0.7 / 3.0	122.4	116.5	114.5	103.8	141.8	116.8	126.3	134.5
May	122.0	0.1 / 2.9	122.8	117.1	114.5	103.4	139.8	117.1	127.2	136.2
Jun	122.1	0.1 / 2.6	123.2	117.7	114.5	101.0	139.5	116.8	127.6	136.4
Jul	122.2	0.1 / 2.2	123.2	117.6	114.6	101.6	139.9	116.9	127.9	136.6
Aug	122.5	0.2 / 2.0	122.1	117.7	114.7	101.8	142.4	117.4	128.0	137.1
Sep	122.7	0.2 / 2.2	121.3	117.9	115.1	105.0	141.9	117.6	128.9	137.1
Oct	122.4	-0.2 / 1.6	121.1	118.2	115.1	105.0	139.7	117.7	128.3	137.0
Nov	122.7	0.2 / 1.6	122.3	118.3	114.9	104.2	140.9	118.0	127.5	137.6
Dec	122.8	0.1 / 2.0	123.4	118.8	114.9	102.5	140.8	117.6	126.5	140.1
2004										
Jan	122.9	0.1 / 1.2	123.7	118.7	114.9	102.3	142.2	117.7	125.3	140.8
Feb	123.2	0.2 / 0.7	123.4	119.0	115.2	104.0	141.9	117.7	126.6	141.1
Mar	123.6	0.3 / 0.7	123.6	119.0	115.3	105.3	142.8	118.3	127.3	141.3
Apr	123.9	0.2 / 1.6	123.4	119.6	115.6	103.8	143.5	119.0	127.1	142.2
May	125.0	0.9 / 2.5	124.4	119.8	115.4	102.8	148.2	119.0	128.4	143.4
Jun	125.1	0.1 / 2.5	125.6	120.3	115.0	101.9	147.1	119.1	128.5	144.0
Jul	125.0	-0.1 / 2.3	125.6	120.6	114.9	100.9	146.2	119.2	128.9	144.2
Aug	124.8	-0.2 / 1.9	125.3	120.9	115.0	101.8	144.7	118.8	128.6	144.7
Sep	124.9	0.1 / 1.8	124.7	121.2	115.4	104.9	143.7	119.2	129.4	144.6
Oct	125.2	0.2 / 2.3	125.3	121.8	115.0	105.4	144.6	119.1	128.4	144.5
Nov	125.7	0.4 / 2.4	126.6	122.2	115.1	103.2	146.7	118.8	127.4	144.7

November 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

BRITISH COLUMBIA		Rented Accom-modation	Owned Accom-modation	Energy for Dwellings			Motor Gasoline	Energy*	All Items Excluding Food	All Items Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	All Items Excluding Food & Energy
				Piped Gas	Fuel Oil/ Other Fuel	Electricity[1]					
	2000	110.7	89.0	167.4	137.6	105.7	134.3	130.8	113.4	111.5	111.9
	2001	111.9	89.7	222.9	141.0	91.9	134.3	134.3	114.7	113.3	113.0
	2002	113.5	89.7	198.6	131.6	106.3	135.7	135.9	117.3	115.5	115.7
	2003	114.7	91.3	223.7	151.0	106.9	148.4	144.9	119.9	117.8	117.8
2003	Jan	114.2	90.5	202.7	143.4	106.8	141.6	139.8	118.4	116.5	116.5
	Feb	114.3	90.6	202.7	150.5	106.8	154.0	146.1	119.3	117.0	117.0
	Mar	114.4	90.8	205.7	178.6	106.8	167.4	153.5	120.2	118.0	117.4
	Apr	114.5	91.0	230.3	165.0	106.8	153.1	147.9	119.9	117.8	117.5
	May	114.5	91.3	230.3	149.8	106.8	142.0	142.1	119.8	117.7	117.8
	Jun	114.6	91.3	230.3	149.8	106.8	142.2	142.2	119.6	117.6	117.6
	Jul	114.7	91.3	230.3	149.8	107.0	144.0	143.2	119.9	117.8	117.9
	Aug	114.7	91.3	230.3	149.8	107.0	160.0	151.0	120.4	118.2	117.8
	Sep	114.8	91.1	230.3	151.1	107.0	157.3	149.8	121.0	118.6	118.5
	Oct	114.9	91.9	230.3	140.2	107.0	140.0	141.0	120.3	118.0	118.5
	Nov	115.0	91.8	230.3	138.6	107.0	141.1	141.6	120.3	118.1	118.4
	Dec	115.2	92.1	230.3	145.4	107.0	138.5	140.4	120.2	118.2	118.4
2004	Jan	115.3	92.0	215.9	150.0	107.0	141.1	140.8	120.1	118.0	118.2
	Feb	115.4	92.3	215.9	153.1	107.0	150.2	145.3	120.9	118.4	118.8
	Mar	115.5	92.2	215.9	162.8	107.0	156.1	148.5	121.2	118.8	118.9
	Apr	115.8	92.9	215.9	160.0	114.0	163.8	155.3	122.1	119.6	119.3
	May	115.8	93.0	215.9	171.3	114.0	180.9	164.0	123.3	120.6	119.9
	Jun	115.8	93.1	215.9	171.3	114.0	179.7	163.4	123.2	120.8	119.9
	Jul	115.8	93.2	223.2	171.3	114.0	169.4	158.9	123.1	120.6	120.2
	Aug	115.9	93.4	223.2	171.3	114.0	170.9	159.6	123.1	120.5	120.1
	Sep	115.9	93.8	223.2	177.1	114.0	169.2	158.9	123.5	120.7	120.6
	Oct	115.9	94.4	223.5	183.1	114.4	170.5	159.9	123.3	120.7	120.2
	Nov	116.0	94.5	223.5	188.9	114.4	162.6	156.2	123.3	120.9	120.6

[1] *electricity figure for 2001 reflects BC Hydro rebates in February and March*

CANADA		Rented Accom-modation	Owned Accom-modation	Energy for Dwellings			Motor Gasoline	Energy*	All Items Excluding Food	All Items Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	All Items Excluding Food & Energy
				Piped Gas	Fuel Oil/ Other Fuel	Electricity					
	2000	111.5	102.9	158.9	143.2	109.2	131.7	128.1	113.9	115.0	112.2
	2001	113.3	105.9	206.0	143.5	111.1	128.3	132.3	116.3	117.7	114.4
	2002	115.5	107.6	168.7	131.8	119.6	127.2	129.6	118.8	119.6	117.5
	2003	117.2	110.9	219.5	151.5	117.2	135.4	139.9	122.4	122.5	120.5
2003	Jan	116.6	109.4	201.3	158.1	118.4	138.0	140.4	121.3	121.7	119.2
	Feb	116.7	109.7	203.5	176.9	118.4	147.7	146.5	122.4	122.6	119.9
	Mar	116.8	110.0	218.1	198.9	118.3	149.1	149.5	122.9	123.1	120.2
	Apr	116.9	110.3	230.3	163.0	106.3	135.7	137.4	121.9	122.2	120.2
	May	117.0	110.6	210.2	143.7	117.9	126.4	134.4	121.9	122.2	120.4
	Jun	117.1	110.9	228.3	143.7	119.0	127.9	137.0	121.9	122.3	120.2
	Jul	117.2	110.9	226.2	143.7	117.9	130.3	137.6	122.0	122.4	120.3
	Aug	117.4	110.9	223.6	143.7	118.3	142.0	143.5	122.7	122.7	120.5
	Sep	117.5	111.1	232.2	138.0	118.2	141.0	143.4	123.1	122.9	120.9
	Oct	117.7	112.0	213.0	132.7	118.5	131.7	137.0	122.7	122.6	121.1
	Nov	117.8	112.1	221.7	135.8	117.1	127.9	135.4	122.8	122.9	121.4
	Dec	117.9	112.4	225.6	140.3	118.5	127.3	136.2	122.7	122.9	121.2
2004	Jan	118.0	112.5	204.7	154.3	118.5	134.6	138.9	122.8	123.0	121.1
	Feb	118.0	112.7	208.6	160.3	118.6	139.2	141.9	123.2	123.3	121.2
	Mar	118.1	112.8	203.3	160.5	118.5	142.9	143.3	123.7	123.7	121.6
	Apr	118.2	113.1	209.9	156.8	122.4	145.0	146.2	124.0	123.9	121.7
	May	118.3	113.3	209.1	159.1	122.4	164.7	156.2	125.1	125.1	122.0
	Jun	118.4	113.5	225.9	159.1	122.4	159.2	154.8	125.0	125.1	122.0
	Jul	118.4	113.9	225.5	159.1	123.3	153.6	152.3	124.9	125.0	122.2
	Aug	118.7	114.1	228.9	159.1	123.4	153.1	152.4	124.7	124.8	121.9
	Sep	118.7	114.4	226.8	168.0	123.4	151.2	151.7	125.0	125.0	122.3
	Oct	118.8	115.5	210.0	183.6	123.8	158.4	154.9	125.3	125.3	122.3
	Nov	118.9	115.8	213.5	193.7	123.8	150.5	151.7	125.5	125.7	122.9

* *Energy includes Piped Gas, Fuel Oil/Other Fuel, Electricity, and Motor Gasoline*

Source: Statistics Canada

Produced by: BC Stats

November 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

Vancouver

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average	Shelter	Accommodation Rented	Accommodation Owned	Water, Fuel Electricity
2000	113.9	2.2	100.8	110.2	90.6	135.7
2001	116.0	1.8	103.3	111.5	91.4	153.0
2002	118.6	2.2	103.4	113.1	91.3	150.0
2003	121.0	2.0	105.0	114.4	92.6	154.6
2003		Month / Year				
Jan	119.7	0.2 / 2.9	104.1	113.9	91.8	150.7
Feb	120.3	0.5 / 3.2	104.2	114.0	92.0	150.8
Mar	121.2	0.7 / 3.2	104.6	114.1	92.4	151.5
Apr	121.0	-0.2 / 2.2	105.1	114.3	92.5	155.9
May	120.9	-0.1 / 1.6	105.2	114.3	92.7	155.7
Jun	120.8	-0.1 / 1.5	105.2	114.4	92.8	155.7
Jul	120.9	0.1 / 1.4	105.2	114.4	92.7	155.7
Aug	121.5	0.5 / 1.8	105.1	114.5	92.6	155.7
Sep	121.8	0.2 / 1.8	105.0	114.7	92.3	155.8
Oct	121.3	-0.4 / 1.4	105.5	114.8	93.0	155.7
Nov	121.4	0.1 / 1.4	105.5	114.8	92.9	155.7
Dec	121.6	0.2 / 1.8	105.7	115.0	93.2	155.8
2004						
Jan	121.3	-0.2 / 1.3	105.5	115.2	93.0	154.0
Feb	121.8	0.4 / 1.2	105.9	115.3	93.6	154.1
Mar	122.2	0.3 / 0.8	105.8	115.4	93.4	154.2
Apr	123.0	0.7 / 1.7	106.9	115.6	94.0	161.5
May	124.0	0.8 / 2.6	106.9	115.7	94.0	161.7
Jun	124.1	0.1 / 2.7	107.0	115.7	94.1	161.7
Jul	123.9	-0.2 / 2.5	107.1	115.7	94.2	163.1
Aug	124.0	0.1 / 2.1	107.2	115.7	94.3	163.1
Sep	124.1	0.1 / 1.9	107.5	115.7	94.6	163.0
Oct	124.2	0.1 / 2.4	108.0	115.8	95.2	163.6
Nov	124.2	0.0 / 2.3	108.1	115.9	95.4	163.7

Victoria

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average	Shelter	Accommodation Rented	Accommodation Owned	Water, Fuel Electricity
2000	113.0	1.7	99.2	110.5	89.1	118.8
2001	114.3	1.2	98.9	111.4	89.8	110.3
2002	117.4	2.7	100.8	113.2	90.2	120.5
2003	120.0	2.2	102.9	114.3	92.3	124.6
2003		Month / Year				
Jan	118.7	0.3 / 3.3	101.9	114.0	91.2	123.2
Feb	119.2	0.4 / 3.3	102.1	114.0	91.3	123.8
Mar	120.1	0.8 / 3.4	102.5	114.1	91.4	128.4
Apr	119.9	-0.2 / 2.4	102.6	114.2	91.7	127.1
May	119.9	0.0 / 2.0	102.8	114.1	92.2	124.6
Jun	119.7	-0.2 / 1.6	102.8	114.1	92.1	124.6
Jul	120.1	0.3 / 1.7	103.0	114.2	92.4	124.9
Aug	120.5	0.3 / 1.9	103.2	114.3	92.6	124.9
Sep	120.8	0.2 / 2.0	102.8	114.4	92.1	124.6
Oct	120.4	-0.3 / 1.8	103.7	114.6	93.4	122.9
Nov	120.5	0.1 / 1.6	103.5	114.7	93.2	122.9
Dec	120.7	0.2 / 1.9	103.9	114.9	93.6	123.7
2004						
Jan	120.6	-0.1 / 1.6	104.0	114.9	93.5	125.5
Feb	121.0	0.3 / 1.5	104.2	114.9	93.7	126.0
Mar	121.3	0.2 / 1.0	104.2	115.0	93.4	127.8
Apr	122.2	0.7 / 1.9	105.6	115.2	94.5	133.2
May	123.2	0.8 / 2.8	105.9	115.3	94.7	135.0
Jun	123.5	0.2 / 3.2	106.0	115.3	94.9	135.0
Jul	123.3	-0.2 / 2.7	106.2	115.3	95.1	135.2
Aug	123.3	0.0 / 2.3	106.3	115.5	95.2	135.2
Sep	123.6	0.2 / 2.3	106.8	115.5	95.9	135.1
Oct	123.6	0.0 / 2.7	107.4	115.4	96.4	137.3
Nov	123.8	0.2 / 2.7	107.7	115.7	96.6	138.1

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Consumer Price Index ◆ December 2004

Highlights - Annual Averages

- British Columbia's annual average all-items Consumer Price Index was 2.0% higher in 2004 than in 2003. The lowest annual increase was seen in Alberta at 1.4%, while Saskatchewan had the highest increase at 2.2%. Nationally, consumer prices rose 1.9% from 2003.

- Of the metropolitan areas, annual average price increases from 2003 ranged from a low of 1.0% in Edmonton, to a high of 2.2% in Charlottetown and Regina. Over the same period, the Vancouver CPI rose 2.0%, while Victoria prices rose 2.3%.

- Tuition fees and energy prices were the main contributors to BC's annual inflation. Tuition fees rose 21.1% in 2004, after a 23.1% rise in 2003. Fuel oil prices rose 12.6% while gas at the pumps cost 10.6% more in 2004 compared to 2003. Smokers paid 5.9% more for cigarettes, and alcohol prices rose 4.2%. Electricity prices rose 5.0%, while natural gas prices dropped 1.7%, after a 12.6% rise in 2003.

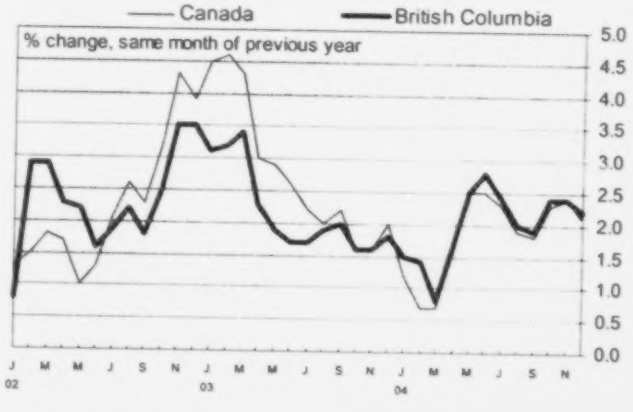
- Modest price increases were seen in 2004 for health and personal care (+1.8%), food (+1.3%), household operation and furnishings (+0.5%), and clothing and footwear (+0.5%).

- BC's 2004 annual average CPI, excluding food and energy, rose 1.7% from 2003. The comparable figure for Canada was 1.2%.

Note: Statistics Canada will release the January Consumer Price Index on February 22, 2005.

1992=100	Index	% Change from	
	December 2004	November 2004	December 2003
Canada	125.4	-0.2	2.1
BC	123.5	-0.2	2.2
Vancouver	124.2	0.0	2.1
Victoria	123.6	-0.2	2.4
Core Canada[1]	125.2	-0.1	1.7

Inflation Trend Drops at End of Year



1992=100	2004 Annual Average Index	2004 Annual Average % Change	2003 Annual Average % Change
Canada	124.6	1.9	2.8
BC	122.8	2.0	2.1
Vancouver	123.4	2.0	2.0
Victoria	122.8	2.3	2.2

[1]**The Core CPI for Canada:** Defined by the Bank of Canada as the All-items index excluding the eight most volatile components (fruit, vegetables, gasoline, fuel oil, natural gas, mortgage interest, intercity transportation and tobacco products). Also excluded is the effect of changes in indirect taxes on the remaining components.

Consumer Price Index—Terms and Definitions

Base Effect

The 12-month variation in the CPI is calculated by comparing the current month's index with the index for the same month of the previous year. The 12-month change is represented by the difference in the indexes of the reference months. Thus, the 12-month variation can decrease from one month to the next merely because the base serving as the point of comparison increased.

Source: Statistics Canada

Twelve-Month Percent Changes

Also referred to as "year-over-year", twelve-month percent changes compare indexes for a given month to indexes for the same month of the previous year. As they compare two points in time, they are influenced by unusual or temporary events that can affect either of the two months. Their calculation does not include any of the intervening monthly indexes.

Source: Statistics Canada

Annual Average Index

Annual average indexes are calculated by averaging index levels over the 12 months of the calendar year. These data should not be confused with the 12-month change in the CPI. By the nature of the calculation, averaging indexes over the calendar year gives a better representation of price behaviour over the whole year and is closer to the concept of an average price. The use of annual averages is considered the preferred option for indexation purposes.

Source: Statistics Canada

Latest Twelve-Month Average Index

The latest twelve-month average index (ending in the current month) is a 12-month moving average of the indexes of the most recent 12 months. It is calculated like the annual average index. Hence, in theory, the December twelve-month average index would be equal to the annual average index for the calendar year. However, in practice, when BC STATS makes these calculations from published data, the December 12-month average index may differ from Statistics Canada's published annual average index due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada and BC Stats

Changes to the Treatment of Rebates in the Consumer Price Index

Beginning with the Consumer Price Index for October 2003, Statistics Canada will change its treatment of rebate payments. The change will affect some types of rebate programs usually related to electricity or natural gas utilities.

Rebates will no longer be reflected in the CPI if they are paid on the basis of past consumption and were not known to consumers at the time of consumption.

To be reflected in the CPI, rebates or credits must relate to specific products and apply to all consumers (or a large proportion of consumers) of the product affected. CPI practice has been to reflect the impact of rebates at the time when rebates are paid. If a rebate was greater than the average monthly charge, the remainder of the rebate was reflected in following months until the rebate had been fully accounted for. Thus the CPI could reflect an average price close to zero for one month or several months in some situations. As a result, the treatment

of rebates has had a significant effect on the rate of change in the CPI, making the indexes for utilities particularly volatile.

The impact of the change will be to reduce short-term fluctuations in the CPI arising from rebates on past consumption. By treating retroactive rebates as windfalls to income rather than as price changes, the level of the CPI will be higher for the months that would have been affected under the past treatment of these rebates, with a corresponding impact on annual averages.

Rebate programs known to consumers at the time of purchase will continue to be accounted for in the CPI.

Source: Statistics Canada

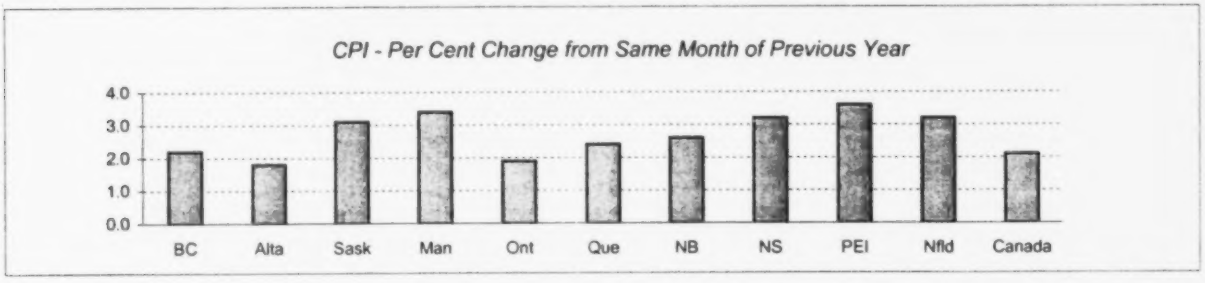
More information about the concepts and use of the CPI is available online in the Statistics Canada publication *Your Guide to the Consumer Price Index* (www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/62-557-XIB/free.htm).

Prepared by: BC Stats, February 2004

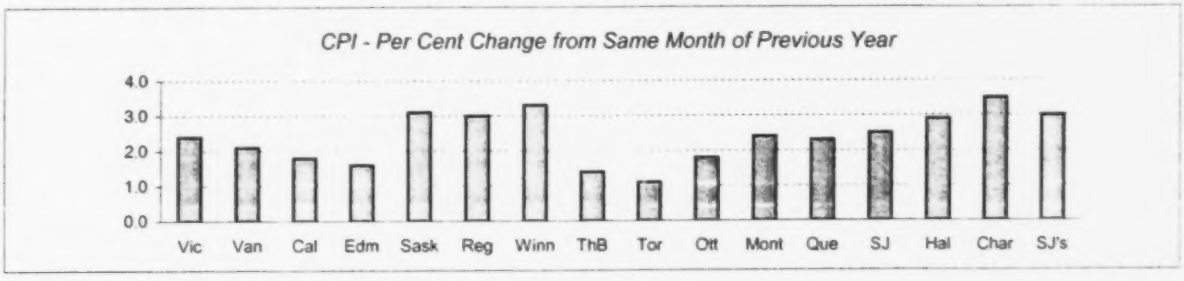
December 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

	British Columbia			Canada		
	Index December 2004	% Change November 2004	% Change December 2003	Index December 2004	% Change November 2004	% Change December 2003
All-Items Index (1992=100)	**123.5**	**-0.2**	**2.2**	**125.4**	**-0.2**	**2.1**
Food	**125.9**	**0.3**	**1.2**	**127.2**	**0.5**	**3.1**
Food Purchased From Stores	123.2	-0.2	0.6	126.3	0.6	3.1
Meat	132.4	-1.1	3.8	136.7	0.1	5.6
Fish & Other Seafood	122.0	-0.5	-5.8	120.8	-0.3	-0.3
Dairy Products & Eggs	127.3	0.6	0.2	128.1	0.2	2.8
Bakery & Other Cereal Products	125.5	0.3	-0.4	131.9	0.0	2.6
Fruit, Fruit Preparations & Nuts	107.6	-3.4	-0.1	111.0	0.2	3.3
Fresh Fruit	102.9	-5.9	-0.6	113.8	-0.4	3.5
Vegetables & Vegetable Preparations	110.9	5.0	5.3	121.4	5.7	6.8
Fresh Vegetables	109.6	6.4	5.6	125.4	7.4	7.7
Other Food Products	125.1	-0.9	-1.8	122.4	-0.4	0.6
Coffee & Tea	129.9	0.1	-1.7	128.3	-0.1	0.6
Non-Alcoholic Beverages	74.6	-2.4	0.7	97.3	-2.3	0.0
Food Purchased From Restaurants	131.9	1.2	2.6	130.1	0.2	2.8
Shelter	**107.1**	**-0.1**	**2.5**	**122.3**	**0.1**	**2.9**
Rented Accommodation	116.0	0.0	0.7	119.0	0.1	0.9
Owned Accommodation	94.7	0.2	2.8	116.1	0.3	3.3
Property taxes	153.5	0.0	3.7	132.1	0.0	4.3
Water, Fuel & Electricity	152.7	-1.3	4.3	152.2	-0.7	4.6
Electricity	112.2	-1.9	4.9	123.5	-0.2	4.2
Piped Gas	226.1	1.2	-1.8	212.7	-0.4	-5.7
Fuel Oil & Other Fuel	179.7	-4.9	23.6	187.0	-3.5	33.3
Household Operations & Furnishings	**122.5**	**0.6**	**-0.2**	**115.3**	**0.2**	**0.3**
Household Operations	130.2	0.3	0.3	120.8	0.2	0.9
Household Furnishings	111.5	1.1	-1.2	106.8	0.0	-0.7
Clothing & Footwear	**109.8**	**-3.6**	**0.9**	**100.8**	**-2.3**	**-1.7**
Clothing	105.6	-4.6	-0.1	97.0	-3.1	-3.1
Women's Clothing	106.3	-6.0	2.3	96.4	-3.5	-3.1
Men's Clothing	108.8	-2.9	-1.6	100.0	-2.4	-2.4
Children's Clothing	93.5	-4.8	-5.0	90.8	-3.2	-5.0
Footwear	109.9	-3.1	1.0	101.8	-2.1	-1.3
Transportation	**144.1**	**-0.3**	**4.3**	**145.8**	**-0.6**	**3.6**
Private Transportation	140.1	-0.6	4.6	143.1	-0.8	3.6
Operation of Motor Vehicles	147.4	-1.5	7.4	153.5	-2.3	5.4
Gasoline	156.4	-3.8	12.9	142.7	-5.2	12.1
Public Transportation	181.9	2.4	2.5	176.3	1.9	2.8
Local & Commuter	146.1	0.0	1.1	148.0	0.0	2.2
Inter-City	196.8	3.3	3.0	198.8	3.1	3.1
Health & Personal Care	**126.1**	**0.2**	**2.9**	**119.1**	**0.3**	**1.3**
Health Care	130.9	0.3	2.1	125.4	0.2	2.0
Personal Care	121.2	-0.1	3.9	114.2	0.4	0.4
Recreation, Education & Reading	**132.5**	**-0.2**	**1.7**	**126.9**	**-0.4**	**0.3**
Recreation	115.8	-0.1	-1.2	112.5	-0.5	-0.8
Education & Reading	195.6	-0.2	8.8	181.7	-0.1	3.7
Education	208.5	0.0	10.1	201.4	0.0	3.7
Reading Material & Other Printed Matter	153.2	-1.4	2.5	143.8	-0.3	3.6
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco Products	**142.9**	**0.1**	**3.2**	**144.5**	**-0.1**	**3.1**
Alcoholic Beverages	124.3	0.1	3.7	125.7	-0.5	2.6
Alcoholic Beverages Purchased from Stores	121.5	0.2	4.3	124.9	-0.7	2.5
Beer Purchased from Stores	143.4	0.0	5.4	135.5	-1.4	2.8
Liquor Purchased from Stores	104.0	0.1	3.2	109.8	-0.5	1.1
Tobacco Products & Smokers' Supplies	159.4	0.1	2.6	144.3	0.1	3.6
Cigarettes	159.2	0.1	2.6	143.0	0.1	3.5
All-Items Excluding Food	123.0	-0.2	2.3	125.2	-0.2	2.0
All-Items Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	120.7	-0.2	2.1	125.5	-0.2	2.1
All-Items Excluding Food & Energy	120.6	0.0	1.9	122.9	0.0	1.4

Provinces	Monthly Index		% Change	Annual Index		% Change
	December 2004	November 2004	December 2003	2004	2003	2003/04
Canada	125.4	-0.2	2.1	124.6	122.3	1.9
Newfoundland & Labrador	124.1	-0.3	3.2	122.9	120.7	1.8
Prince Edward Island	126.4	-0.7	3.6	124.5	121.9	2.1
Nova Scotia	127.5	-0.2	3.2	126.1	123.9	1.8
New Brunswick	125.2	-0.4	2.6	124.4	122.6	1.5
Quebec	121.5	-0.2	2.4	120.7	118.4	1.9
Ontario	126.5	-0.1	1.9	125.6	123.3	1.9
Manitoba	129.9	0.3	3.4	127.8	125.3	2.0
Saskatchewan	130.9	-0.3	3.1	129.3	126.5	2.2
Alberta	132.2	-0.2	1.8	131.5	129.7	1.4
British Columbia	**123.5**	**-0.2**	**2.2**	**122.8**	**120.4**	**2.0**
Whitehorse	122.3	-0.6	2.9	121.1	119.9	1.0
Yellowknife	122.2	1.8	3.4	119.1	118.4	0.6
Iqaluit (Dec. 2002=100)	102.2	0.4	1.7	101.2	100.2	1.0



Metropolitan Areas	Monthly Index		% Change	Annual Index		% Change
	December 2004	November 2004	December 2003	2004	2003	2003/04
St. John's	123.9	-0.3	3.0	122.8	120.6	1.8
Charlottetown	125.3	-0.6	3.5	123.5	120.9	2.2
Halifax	126.2	-0.4	2.9	125.0	122.9	1.7
Saint John	124.8	-0.4	2.5	124.0	122.2	1.5
Quebec City	122.1	-0.3	2.3	121.4	119.1	1.9
Montreal	121.5	-0.2	2.4	120.7	118.4	1.9
Ottawa	128.1	-0.2	1.8	127.3	124.9	1.9
Toronto	126.8	-0.1	1.1	126.3	124.2	1.7
Thunder Bay	124.3	-0.2	1.4	123.6	122.1	1.2
Winnipeg	129.9	0.2	3.3	127.9	125.5	1.9
Regina	131.7	-0.2	3.0	130.3	127.5	2.2
Saskatoon	130.0	-0.2	3.1	128.4	125.8	2.1
Edmonton	130.4	-0.2	1.6	129.7	128.4	1.0
Calgary	133.1	-0.3	1.8	132.5	130.2	1.8
Vancouver	**124.2**	**0.0**	**2.1**	**123.4**	**121.0**	**2.0**
Victoria	**123.6**	**-0.2**	**2.4**	**122.8**	**120.0**	**2.3**



Source: Statistics Canada

Produced by: BC Stats

British Columbia

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average	Food	Shelter	Household Operation	Clothing Footwear	Trans-portation	Health & Personal	Recreation Education	Alcohol Tobacco
2001	115.2	1.7	117.4	101.2	118.0	112.6	130.5	119.7	122.6	112.3
2002	117.9	2.3	120.6	101.9	121.0	112.6	135.0	121.9	124.7	126.7
2003	120.4	2.1	122.8	103.7	122.3	111.4	139.3	122.8	129.0	136.0
2004	122.8	2.0	124.4	105.9	122.9	112.0	143.2	125.0	132.3	142.9
2003		Month / Year								
Jan	119.0	0.2 / 3.1	122.1	102.7	121.3	110.3	138.0	122.8	125.1	132.2
Feb	119.6	0.5 / 3.2	121.1	102.9	122.3	112.0	140.3	122.7	126.0	134.0
Mar	120.6	0.8 / 3.4	122.3	103.2	122.1	113.8	143.2	121.8	126.9	135.2
Apr	120.4	-0.2 / 2.3	122.7	103.6	121.7	113.5	140.7	122.6	126.9	135.3
May	120.4	0.0 / 1.9	123.3	103.8	121.9	112.1	138.7	121.9	128.7	136.3
Jun	120.2	-0.2 / 1.7	123.3	103.8	122.0	110.4	138.2	121.7	128.4	136.4
Jul	120.5	0.2 / 1.7	123.3	103.8	122.3	111.4	138.6	122.2	129.5	136.4
Aug	120.9	0.3 / 1.9	123.3	103.9	122.4	109.4	141.0	123.5	129.6	136.8
Sep	121.2	0.2 / 2.0	122.4	103.7	123.1	113.0	139.9	123.9	133.6	137.0
Oct	120.6	-0.5 / 1.6	122.3	104.3	122.5	112.5	136.3	124.2	132.3	136.9
Nov	120.8	0.2 / 1.6	123.5	104.2	122.7	110.1	138.2	123.3	130.9	137.0
Dec	120.9	0.1 / 1.8	124.4	104.5	122.7	108.8	138.1	122.6	130.3	138.5
2004										
Jan	120.8	-0.1 / 1.5	124.1	104.4	122.6	109.2	138.4	122.8	128.7	140.9
Feb	121.3	0.4 / 1.4	123.2	104.7	123.3	112.3	138.9	123.4	130.0	142.9
Mar	121.6	0.2 / 0.8	123.5	104.6	123.6	112.9	140.2	123.7	130.5	142.9
Apr	122.4	0.7 / 1.7	123.7	105.7	123.9	111.3	142.4	125.1	130.4	143.1
May	123.4	0.8 / 2.5	124.1	105.8	123.8	112.6	146.3	125.3	132.5	143.5
Jun	123.6	0.2 / 2.8	125.5	105.9	122.9	111.5	146.3	124.9	133.4	143.4
Jul	123.4	-0.2 / 2.4	124.7	106.1	123.1	112.2	144.8	125.5	133.5	142.7
Aug	123.3	-0.1 / 2.0	124.3	106.2	123.1	111.6	145.1	125.4	133.3	142.9
Sep	123.5	0.2 / 1.9	123.6	106.6	122.7	113.0	144.0	126.0	135.8	143.0
Oct	123.5	0.0 / 2.4	124.6	107.0	121.6	113.9	143.9	125.3	133.7	143.3
Nov	123.7	0.2 / 2.4	125.5	107.2	121.8	113.9	144.5	125.9	132.7	142.8
Dec	123.5	-0.2 / 2.2	125.9	107.1	122.5	109.8	144.1	126.1	132.5	142.9

Canada

Year	All Items	% Change Annual Average	Food	Shelter	Household Operation	Clothing Footwear	Trans-portation	Health & Personal	Recreation Education	Alcohol Tobacco
2001	116.4	2.6	117.2	112.8	112.2	106.0	130.8	114.2	124.3	105.1
2002	119.0	2.2	120.3	113.8	113.8	105.2	134.4	115.5	126.3	123.6
2003	122.3	2.8	122.4	117.5	114.6	103.3	141.4	117.0	127.3	136.0
2004	124.6	1.9	124.9	120.5	115.2	103.1	144.8	118.8	127.7	143.3
2003		Month / Year								
Jan	121.4	0.8 / 4.5	122.3	116.2	113.9	101.6	141.9	116.1	125.4	132.0
Feb	122.3	0.7 / 4.6	122.1	116.7	114.5	103.8	144.1	116.4	127.1	133.5
Mar	122.8	0.4 / 4.3	122.4	117.4	114.5	105.5	144.6	116.1	126.7	133.8
Apr	121.9	-0.7 / 3.0	122.4	116.5	114.5	103.8	141.8	116.8	126.3	134.5
May	122.0	0.1 / 2.9	122.8	117.1	114.5	103.4	139.8	117.1	127.2	136.2
Jun	122.1	0.1 / 2.6	123.2	117.7	114.5	101.0	139.5	116.8	127.6	136.4
Jul	122.2	0.1 / 2.2	123.2	117.6	114.6	101.6	139.9	116.9	127.9	136.6
Aug	122.5	0.2 / 2.0	122.1	117.7	114.7	101.8	142.4	117.4	128.0	137.1
Sep	122.7	0.2 / 2.2	121.3	117.9	115.1	105.0	141.9	117.6	128.9	137.1
Oct	122.4	-0.2 / 1.6	121.1	118.2	115.1	105.0	139.7	117.7	128.3	137.0
Nov	122.7	0.2 / 1.6	122.3	118.3	114.9	104.2	140.9	118.0	127.5	137.6
Dec	122.8	0.1 / 2.0	123.4	118.8	114.9	102.5	140.8	117.6	126.5	140.1
2004										
Jan	122.9	0.1 / 1.2	123.7	118.7	114.9	102.3	142.2	117.7	125.3	140.8
Feb	123.2	0.2 / 0.7	123.4	119.0	115.2	104.0	141.9	117.7	126.6	141.1
Mar	123.6	0.3 / 0.7	123.6	119.0	115.3	105.3	142.8	118.3	127.3	141.3
Apr	123.9	0.2 / 1.6	123.4	119.6	115.6	103.8	143.5	119.0	127.1	142.2
May	125.0	0.9 / 2.5	124.4	119.8	115.4	102.8	148.2	119.0	128.4	143.4
Jun	125.1	0.1 / 2.5	125.6	120.3	115.0	101.9	147.1	119.1	128.5	144.0
Jul	125.0	-0.1 / 2.3	125.6	120.6	114.9	100.9	146.2	119.2	128.9	144.2
Aug	124.8	-0.2 / 1.9	125.3	120.9	115.0	101.8	144.7	118.8	128.6	144.7
Sep	124.9	0.1 / 1.8	124.7	121.2	115.4	104.9	143.7	119.2	129.4	144.6
Oct	125.2	0.2 / 2.3	125.3	121.8	115.0	105.4	144.6	119.1	128.4	144.5
Nov	125.7	0.4 / 2.4	126.6	122.2	115.1	103.2	146.7	118.8	127.4	144.7
Dec	125.4	-0.2 / 2.1	127.2	122.3	115.3	100.8	145.8	119.1	126.9	144.5

December 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

BRITISH COLUMBIA

		Rented Accom-modation	Owned Accom-modation	Energy for Dwellings			Motor Gasoline	Energy*	All Items Excluding Food	All Items Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	All Items Excluding Food & Energy
				Piped Gas	Fuel Oil/ Other Fuel	Electricity[1]					
	2001	111.9	89.7	222.9	141.0	91.9	134.3	134.3	114.7	113.3	113.0
	2002	113.5	89.7	198.6	131.6	106.3	135.7	135.9	117.3	115.5	115.7
	2003	114.7	91.3	223.7	151.0	106.9	148.4	144.9	119.9	117.8	117.8
	2004	115.8	93.3	219.8	170.0	112.2	164.2	155.3	122.5	120.0	119.8
2003	Jan	114.2	90.5	202.7	143.4	106.8	141.6	139.8	118.4	116.5	116.5
	Feb	114.3	90.6	202.7	150.5	106.8	154.0	146.1	119.3	117.0	117.0
	Mar	114.4	90.8	205.7	178.6	106.8	167.4	153.5	120.2	118.0	117.4
	Apr	114.5	91.0	230.3	165.0	106.8	153.1	147.9	119.9	117.8	117.5
	May	114.5	91.3	230.3	149.8	106.8	142.0	142.1	119.8	117.7	117.8
	Jun	114.6	91.3	230.3	149.8	106.8	142.2	142.2	119.6	117.6	117.6
	Jul	114.7	91.3	230.3	149.8	107.0	144.0	143.2	119.9	117.8	117.9
	Aug	114.7	91.3	230.3	149.8	107.0	160.0	151.0	120.4	118.2	117.8
	Sep	114.8	91.1	230.3	151.1	107.0	157.3	149.8	121.0	118.6	118.5
	Oct	114.9	91.9	230.3	140.2	107.0	140.0	141.0	120.3	118.0	118.5
	Nov	115.0	91.8	230.3	138.6	107.0	141.1	141.6	120.3	118.1	118.4
	Dec	115.2	92.1	230.3	145.4	107.0	138.5	140.4	120.2	118.2	118.4
2004	Jan	115.3	92.0	215.9	150.0	107.0	141.1	140.8	120.1	118.0	118.2
	Feb	115.4	92.3	215.9	153.1	107.0	150.2	145.3	120.9	118.4	118.8
	Mar	115.5	92.2	215.9	162.8	107.0	156.1	148.5	121.2	118.8	118.9
	Apr	115.8	92.9	215.9	160.0	114.0	163.8	155.3	122.1	119.6	119.3
	May	115.8	93.0	215.9	171.3	114.0	180.9	164.0	123.3	120.6	119.9
	Jun	115.8	93.1	215.9	171.3	114.0	179.7	163.4	123.2	120.8	119.9
	Jul	115.8	93.2	223.2	171.3	114.0	169.4	158.9	123.1	120.6	120.2
	Aug	115.9	93.4	223.2	171.3	114.0	170.9	159.6	123.1	120.5	120.1
	Sep	115.9	93.8	223.2	177.1	114.0	169.2	158.9	123.5	120.7	120.6
	Oct	115.9	94.4	223.5	183.1	114.4	170.5	159.9	123.3	120.7	120.2
	Nov	116.0	94.5	223.5	188.9	114.4	162.6	156.2	123.3	120.9	120.6
	Dec	116.0	94.7	226.1	179.7	112.2	156.4	152.2	123.0	120.7	120.6

[1] *electricity figure for 2001 reflects BC Hydro rebates in February and March*

CANADA

		Rented Accom-modation	Owned Accom-modation	Energy for Dwellings			Motor Gasoline	Energy*	All Items Excluding Food	All Items Excluding Alcohol & Tobacco	All Items Excluding Food & Energy
				Piped Gas	Fuel Oil/ Other Fuel	Electricity					
	2001	113.3	105.9	206.0	143.5	111.1	128.3	132.3	116.3	117.7	114.4
	2002	115.5	107.6	168.7	131.8	119.6	127.2	129.6	118.8	119.6	117.5
	2003	117.2	110.9	219.5	151.5	117.2	135.4	139.9	122.4	122.5	120.5
	2004	118.5	114.0	214.9	166.7	122.0	149.6	149.3	124.5	124.6	122.0
2003	Jan	116.6	109.4	201.3	158.1	118.4	138.0	140.4	121.3	121.7	119.2
	Feb	116.7	109.7	203.5	176.9	118.4	147.7	146.5	122.4	122.6	119.9
	Mar	116.8	110.0	218.1	198.9	118.3	149.1	149.5	122.9	123.1	120.2
	Apr	116.9	110.3	230.3	163.0	106.3	135.7	137.4	121.9	122.2	120.2
	May	117.0	110.6	210.2	143.7	117.9	126.4	134.4	121.9	122.2	120.4
	Jun	117.1	110.9	228.3	143.7	119.0	127.9	137.0	121.9	122.3	120.2
	Jul	117.2	110.9	226.2	143.7	117.9	130.3	137.6	122.0	122.4	120.3
	Aug	117.4	110.9	223.6	143.7	118.3	142.0	143.5	122.7	122.7	120.5
	Sep	117.5	111.1	232.2	138.0	118.2	141.0	143.4	123.1	122.9	120.9
	Oct	117.7	112.0	213.0	132.7	118.5	131.7	137.0	122.7	122.6	121.1
	Nov	117.8	112.1	221.7	135.8	117.1	127.9	135.4	122.8	122.9	121.4
	Dec	117.9	112.4	225.6	140.3	118.5	127.3	136.2	122.7	122.9	121.2
2004	Jan	118.0	112.5	204.7	154.3	118.5	134.6	138.9	122.8	123.0	121.1
	Feb	118.0	112.7	208.6	160.3	118.6	139.2	141.9	123.2	123.3	121.2
	Mar	118.1	112.8	203.3	160.5	118.5	142.9	143.3	123.7	123.7	121.6
	Apr	118.2	113.1	209.9	156.8	122.4	145.0	146.2	124.0	123.9	121.7
	May	118.3	113.3	209.1	159.1	122.4	164.7	156.2	125.1	125.1	122.0
	Jun	118.4	113.5	225.9	159.1	122.4	159.2	154.8	125.0	125.1	122.0
	Jul	118.4	113.9	225.5	159.1	123.3	153.6	152.3	124.9	125.0	122.2
	Aug	118.7	114.1	228.9	159.1	123.4	153.1	152.4	124.7	124.8	121.9
	Sep	118.7	114.4	226.8	168.0	123.4	151.2	151.7	125.0	125.0	122.3
	Oct	118.8	115.5	210.0	183.6	123.8	158.4	154.9	125.3	125.3	122.3
	Nov	118.9	115.8	213.5	193.7	123.8	150.5	151.7	125.5	125.7	122.9
	Dec	119.0	116.1	212.7	187.0	123.5	142.7	147.3	125.2	125.5	122.9

* *Energy includes Piped Gas, Fuel Oil/Other Fuel, Electricity, and Motor Gasoline*

Source: Statistics Canada

Produced by: BC Stats

December 2004 Consumer Price Index (1992=100)

Vancouver

		% Change			Accommodation		Water, Fuel
Year	All Items	Annual Average		Shelter	Rented	Owned	Electricity
2001	116.0	1.8		103.3	111.5	91.4	153.0
2002	118.6	2.2		103.4	113.1	91.3	150.0
2003	121.0	2.0		105.0	114.4	92.6	154.6
2004	123.4	2.0		107.0	115.6	94.3	160.4
2003		Month	Year				
Jan	119.7	0.2	2.9	104.1	113.9	91.8	150.7
Feb	120.3	0.5	3.2	104.2	114.0	92.0	150.8
Mar	121.2	0.7	3.2	104.6	114.1	92.4	151.5
Apr	121.0	-0.2	2.2	105.1	114.3	92.5	155.9
May	120.9	-0.1	1.6	105.2	114.3	92.7	155.7
Jun	120.8	-0.1	1.5	105.2	114.4	92.8	155.7
Jul	120.9	0.1	1.4	105.2	114.4	92.7	155.7
Aug	121.5	0.5	1.8	105.1	114.5	92.6	155.7
Sep	121.8	0.2	1.8	105.0	114.7	92.3	155.8
Oct	121.3	-0.4	1.4	105.5	114.8	93.0	155.7
Nov	121.4	0.1	1.4	105.5	114.8	92.9	155.7
Dec	121.6	0.2	1.8	105.7	115.0	93.2	155.8
2004							
Jan	121.3	-0.2	1.3	105.5	115.2	93.0	154.0
Feb	121.8	0.4	1.2	105.9	115.3	93.6	154.1
Mar	122.2	0.3	0.8	105.8	115.4	93.4	154.2
Apr	123.0	0.7	1.7	106.9	115.6	94.0	161.5
May	124.0	0.8	2.6	106.9	115.7	94.0	161.7
Jun	124.1	0.1	2.7	107.0	115.7	94.1	161.7
Jul	123.9	-0.2	2.5	107.1	115.7	94.2	163.1
Aug	124.0	0.1	2.1	107.2	115.7	94.3	163.1
Sep	124.1	0.1	1.9	107.5	115.7	94.6	163.0
Oct	124.2	0.1	2.4	108.0	115.8	95.2	163.6
Nov	124.2	0.0	2.3	108.1	115.9	95.4	163.7
Dec	124.2	0.0	2.1	108.1	115.9	95.7	160.9

Victoria

		% Change			Accommodation		Water, Fuel
Year	All Items	Annual Average		Shelter	Rented	Owned	Electricity
2001	114.3	1.2		98.9	111.4	89.8	110.3
2002	117.4	2.7		100.8	113.2	90.2	120.5
2003	120.0	2.2		102.9	114.3	92.3	124.6
2004	122.8	2.3		106.0	115.3	95.1	133.2
2003		Month	Year				
Jan	118.7	0.3	3.3	101.9	114.0	91.2	123.2
Feb	119.2	0.4	3.3	102.1	114.0	91.3	123.8
Mar	120.1	0.8	3.4	102.5	114.1	91.4	128.4
Apr	119.9	-0.2	2.4	102.6	114.2	91.7	127.1
May	119.9	0.0	2.0	102.8	114.1	92.2	124.6
Jun	119.7	-0.2	1.6	102.8	114.1	92.1	124.6
Jul	120.1	0.3	1.7	103.0	114.2	92.4	124.9
Aug	120.5	0.3	1.9	103.2	114.3	92.6	124.9
Sep	120.8	0.2	2.0	102.8	114.4	92.1	124.6
Oct	120.4	-0.3	1.8	103.7	114.6	93.4	122.9
Nov	120.5	0.1	1.6	103.5	114.7	93.2	122.9
Dec	120.7	0.2	1.9	103.9	114.9	93.6	123.7
2004							
Jan	120.6	-0.1	1.6	104.0	114.9	93.5	125.5
Feb	121.0	0.3	1.5	104.2	114.9	93.7	126.0
Mar	121.3	0.2	1.0	104.2	115.0	93.4	127.8
Apr	122.2	0.7	1.9	105.6	115.2	94.5	133.2
May	123.2	0.8	2.8	105.9	115.3	94.7	135.0
Jun	123.5	0.2	3.2	106.0	115.3	94.9	135.0
Jul	123.3	-0.2	2.7	106.2	115.3	95.1	135.2
Aug	123.3	0.0	2.3	106.3	115.5	95.2	135.2
Sep	123.6	0.2	2.3	106.8	115.5	95.9	135.1
Oct	123.6	0.0	2.7	107.4	115.4	96.4	137.3
Nov	123.8	0.2	2.7	107.7	115.7	96.6	138.1
Dec	123.6	-0.2	2.4	107.5	116.0	96.7	135.0